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EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1938

MARGATE
COOPER THE PRINTER
'PHONE 874

EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT

A. M. WATTS M.D., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
TELEPHONE NO. 93.

PIERREMONT HALL,
BROADSTAIRS,
KENT.

With the Compliments

of the

Medical Officer of Health

EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT



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Pierremont Hall,
Broadstairs.

June, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee of the East Kent (No. 1) United District.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you for your consideration my nineteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the United District, which I have compiled in accordance with Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health, dated the 25th October, 1938.

With my report are incorporated the reports of the Sanitary Inspectors. and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the help I have received from them in the performance of my duty.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
A. M. WATTS,
Medical Officer of Health.

EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT

JOINT COMMITTEE.

Herne Bay Urban District Council:

Councillor C. S. JONES.
Councillor E. R. METCALF.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council:

Councillor B. J. PEARSON, J.P. (Chairman).
Councillor H. NOBLE.
Councillor A. J. TANTON.

Bridge-Blean Rural District Council:

Councillor T. HILLS.
Councillor Mrs. A. B. HILTON.

Clerk: E. F. OWEN,
Council Offices,
Pierremont Hall,
Broadstairs.

STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:
A. M. WATTS, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital:

Medical Officer	James Rowland Hamerton, M.B., B.S.Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist	Thos. A. Clarke, M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.L.O.

Sanitary Inspectors:

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

C. J. Clark, Senior Sanitary Inspector, Council Offices, Herne Bay, holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board; Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for the inspection of meat and other foods; and the Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. He is the Inspector under the Petroleum Acts, Inspector of Public Lighting, and the Officer for carrying out the Rats and Mice Destruction Act. He is also the Inspector under the Shops Act.

The Sanitary Inspector's Assistant, H. C. Boswell, having passed his examination and become a qualified Sanitary Inspector, now holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board. He was appointed in May, by the Urban District Council, an additional Sanitary Inspector at a salary of £200, rising by £10 per annum to £250.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has the assistance of a lady clerk.

BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

F. S. Burrow, Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs, holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute; Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for the inspection of meat and other foods. He is the Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act and the Officer for carrying out the Rats and Mice Destruction Act. He is also the Inspector under the Shops Acts.

The Sanitary Inspector has the assistance of a clerk.

H. K. Blundell, Senior Sanitary Inspector, Council Offices, Old Dover Road, Canterbury, holds the Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute; the Royal Sanitary Institute Special Certificate; and the Inspector's Certificate for the inspection of meat and other foods. He is the Engineer of the Harbledown Sewerage Works and the Hersden Sewerage Works; the Officer for carrying out the Rats and Mice Destruction Act; and he superintends the scavenging of the District. He became Senior Sanitary Inspector on the 1st October, 1936.

R. J. Connolly, Additional Sanitary Inspector, holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination Board; he commenced duty on the 1st October, 1936.

T. Baines, Temporary Additional Sanitary Inspector, holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Board; he was appointed by the Rural District Council on the 10th October, 1938, at a salary of £200 per annum, with travelling allowance, for two years.

A junior clerk is employed in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Office.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The East Kent (No. 1) United District was formed by an Order of the Minister of Health, dated 26th May, 1920; and by an Order of the Minister of Health dated 2nd March, 1934, the Bridge-Blean Rural District, which came into existence on the 1st April, 1934, was substituted for the Rural District of Blean as a constituent Authority of the United District; then by an Order of the Minister of Health dated the 21st February, 1935, the Isle of Thanet Rural District ceased to exist on 31st March, 1935, and in consequence the United District was correspondingly reduced in size and population.

The United District, which is situated at the north-east corner of East Kent, now consists of the following Districts:—

The Urban District of Herne Bay.

The Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's.

The Rural District of Bridge-Blean.

The area is as follows:—

	Including Inland Water
Herne Bay Urban District	8,566 acres
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District ...	2,771 ,,
Bridge-Blean Rural District	55,868 ,,
	67,205 ,,

POPULATION ESTIMATED BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL FOR THE YEAR 1938.

Herne Bay U.D.	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	Bridge-Blean R.D.
16,140	13,230	15,770

CHIEF OCCUPATION OF INHABITANTS.

A large percentage of the inhabitants of the two Urban Districts may be described as private residents. There are many private Boarding Schools and Convalescent Homes in these two Districts. Many of the inhabitants are employed in hotels, boarding houses and lodging houses, or are engaged in occupations connected with the stay in these Districts of the numerous visitors; and some are engaged in fishing and work connected with the sea.

In the Rural District many of the inhabitants are engaged in agricultural pursuits; there is also the Chislet Colliery situated in the Parish of Westbere, where some 1,350 men are employed; some of these men live in the neighbouring towns of Canterbury and Ramsgate, and others in the adjoining villages, but about 400 have their homes in the colliery village of Hersden. There is also a Paper Mill at Chartham, where some 122 people work; and the small village of Woollage, in the vicinity of Womenswold, is inhabited entirely by miners who work at the Snowdown Colliery. The Mental Hospital at Chartham

accommodates 1,500 patients and about 150 members of the staff. Then there are two large concrete factories, one at Chartham and the other at Westbere, Sturry: the South Coast Concrete Co. at Chartham employ approximately 90 people, some of whom live in the village of Chartham and the others are from the surrounding districts. At the Kent Concrete Products Co., Westbere, Sturry, approximately 40 people are employed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

UNITED DISTRICT.

	Total	M.	F.		United District	England & Wales
Live Births—	570	303	267	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.62	15.1
Legitimate	547	296	251			
Illegitimate	23	7	16			
Stillbirths—	16	10	6	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	27.13	Not available
Deaths—	594	299	295	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	13.15	11.6

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

		Deaths	Rate per		
No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	1,000 total	Nil	0.86
No. 30.	Other puerperal causes ...	1	(live and	5.74	2.11
	Total	1	still) births	5.74	2.97

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	40	53
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	35	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	5	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	113
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.—Five.

Prematurity	1
White Asphyxia	1
Meningitis	1
Atelectasis	1
Broncho Pneumonia ...	1

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District.—Six.

Prematurity	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	1
Atelectasis	1
Marasmus	1
Broncho Pneumonia ...	1
Unknown (Body found) ...	1

Bridge-Blean Rural District.—Twelve.

Prematurity	2
Pyloric Stenosis	2
Atelectasis	1
Septicaemia	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1
Asphyxia	1
Sarcomatosis of Liver ...	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	1
Marasmus	1
Congenital Heart Disease ...	1

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There has been no important change in the Laboratory facilities; nearly all bacteriological work connected with the United District is carried out at the County Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone, free of charge, outfits being supplied to the Medical Officer of Health and to medical practitioners in order that they may send specimens to the Laboratory for examination. Some work in connection with the Crole Wyndham Convalescent Home at Herne Bay is carried out at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious Cases.

The Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital Committee, at a meeting on the 13th June, 1934, entered into an arrangement with the Whitstable and District Ambulance Committee for the removal of patients to the Isolation Hospital from both Districts.

The original motor ambulance of the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board was provided in 1921. In the spring of 1939, the Board decided to exchange it for a modern ambulance belonging to the Eastry Rural District Council as the latter was not wanted when the Isolation Hospital belonging to that Council was closed. In this ambulance patients are removed from the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District, and from the Boroughs of Margate and Ramsgate.

The Bridge-Blean Rural District Council have an arrangement whereby they hire a motor ambulance belonging to the Whitstable and District Ambulance Committee for the removal of patients either to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital or to the City of Canterbury Isolation Hospital.

(b) Non-Infectious Cases.

In the Herne Bay Urban District the ambulance service is provided by a Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who maintain the motor ambulances, the Urban District Council making an annual grant towards the fund.

In July a new ambulance was dedicated and handed over by the Chairman of the Urban District Council to the Chief Commissioner of the St. John Ambulance Brigade for the use of the Local Divisions. This is a 30 h.p. "V8 Fordson," with a specially constructed body of the latest type, suspended on the Ford transverse design—12 leaves front, 13 leaves rear springs ; double acting hydraulic shock absorbers on all four wheels ; all joints rubber bushed. The special features of the interior equipment are ventilation, lockers, windows, communication, stretcher rack, attendant's seat, and view from interior. At the rear of the vehicle on the roof, a spot light is fitted which will illuminate the road at the rear of the vehicle for attending accident cases. The sum of £300 was raised by public appeal.

There are now two ambulances in the Urban District.

As regards co-ordination, there are no joint working arrangements in existence, but if the assistance of another ambulance is required, this is obtained from St. John Ambulance Brigade at Canterbury or Whitstable.

The ambulance service in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District is provided by the British Red Cross Society. There are three ambulances, which are in the custody of the Broadstairs Detachment, Kent 59, the Urban District Council providing the headquarters room and a garage in the Fire Station Yard.

As regards co-ordination, there is a working arrangement whereby if the Broadstairs ambulances are out, the ambulance of either Ramsgate Borough or the Margate Borough is available and *vice versa* The Ramsgate ambulance is provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Margate ambulance by the Margate Ambulance Corps.

In the Bridge-Blean Rural District the ambulance of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital is used for non-infectious cases ; there is also an ambulance at the Chislet Colliery for the use of the workmen there ; and the motor ambulances of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Herne Bay Division, are available.

As regards co-ordination in the Rural District, there is an arrangement whereby the motor ambulance belonging to the Canterbury Centre of the St. John Ambulance Association, is available for the use of all the villages surrounding Canterbury, or further afield if necessary.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

Herne Bay Urban District.

The District Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association, provides a District (Queen's) Nurse.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District.

The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association, provides a District (Queen's) Nurse.

Bridge-Blean Rural District.

Adisham, Nonington, Chillenden, Goodnestone and Knowlton.—A District Nurse works in these Parishes under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Barham, Denton and Womenswold.—A District Nurse works in these Parishes under a local Association.

Bridge, Patrixbourne, Bekesbourne, Bishopsbourne, Upper and Lower Hardres and Stelling.—On the 1st February Upper and Lower Hardres Association amalgamated with the Bridge, Patrixbourne, Bekesbourne and Bishopsbourne Association, and they are affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Chartham and Thanington Without.—This Association was formed in 1937 and is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Chislet and Hoath.—There is a District Nurse working in these two Parishes under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association. She also works in the Parish of Reculver, which is situated in the Herne Bay Urban District.

Fordwich, Sturry, Westbere and Hersden.—A District Nurse works in the three former Parishes under a local Association affiliated to the County Association. The mining village of Hersden is being joined to this District and a second Nurse is to be engaged.

Harbledown, Blean, Hackington, Tyler Hill and St. Stephen's.—On the 16th May this Association was amalgamated with the Canterbury Nursing Association ; the combined Association is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Littlebourne, Ickham, Wickham and Stodmarsh.—There is a District (Queen's) Nurse working in these Parishes under a local Association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Waltham, Petham, Elmstead, Crundale and Hastingleigh.—This Association was formed in 1937 and is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Dental Clinics.

At Herne Bay a School Dental Clinic is held at the Parochial Institute each Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. until 4.0 p.m. There is also a Dental Clinic for Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Infants held at the Parochial Institute on alternate Fridays from 9.30 a.m. until 4.0 p.m., the patients being drawn from the various Welfare Centres in the Herne Bay area.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District a School Dental Clinic is held at the Mothercraft Club, St. Peter's Road, Broadstairs, on each Tuesday except the first and fourth in each calendar month, from 9.30 a.m. onwards. The School Dental Surgeon also attends on each Saturday morning (except the third Saturday) from 9.30 a.m. to 12.0 noon. New facilities for the dental treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Infants under five years of age, attending Kent County Council Welfare Centres in the Isle of Thanet, were introduced in November, 1937; these include the administration of general anaesthetics for extractions, conservative treatment and the provision of dentures. This Clinic is held at the Mothercraft Club on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1.30 p.m.

A School Dental Clinic is held in the Bridge-Blean Rural District when required, usually on a Tuesday, at No. 11, Longport Street, Canterbury. This clinic serves the surrounding District. New additional facilities have been introduced during 1938 for the dental treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers, and Infants under five years of age, attending the Kent County Council Welfare Centres around the Canterbury district; the Clinic is held every other Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at No. 11 Longport Street, Canterbury, and the facilities include administration of general anaesthetics for extractions, conservative treatment and the provision of dentures.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Herne Bay Urban District.

The Centre in Herne Bay is carried on by the County Council and is held at the Parochial Institute each Monday and Tuesday at 2.0 p.m.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District.

There is one voluntary Centre at Broadstairs called the "Broadstairs and St. Peter's Mothercraft Club," situated in St. Peter's Road, which is open each Thursday at 2.0 p.m.

Bridge-Blean Rural District.

Six Centres are in existence in the Rural District, carried on by the County Council, particulars of which are as follows :—

Barham.—Held in the Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays at 2.0 p.m.

Bridge.—Held in the Reading Room, High Street, alternate Friday afternoons.

Hersden.—Held in the New Wesleyan Chapel Rooms each Wednesday at 2.0 p.m.

Littlebourne.—Held in the Sports Hut, on alternate Tuesdays at 2.0 p.m.

Petham.—Held in the Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays p.m.

Sturry.—Held in the Parish Room on the second and fourth Thursday in the month at 2.0 p.m.

Health Visitors.

The following is a list of Health Visitors and their Districts :—

Herne Bay Urban District	Nurse Neale
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District ...	Nurse Morris

BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

Parishes of Bekesbourne, Fordwich, Hackington, Harbledown, Ickham and Well, Littlebourne, Patrixbourne, Sturry, Thanington Without, Westbere and Wickhambreux	Nurse Worthington
Parishes of Adisham, Barham, Bishopsbourne, Bridge, Lower Hardres, Upper Hardres, Kingston and Womenswold	Nurse Jervis
Parish of St. Comus and St. Damian in the Blean	Nurse Edwards
Parishes of Chartham, Petham and Waltham ...	Nurse Daw
Parishes of Chislet and Hoath	Nurse Neale

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

There is an Ante--Natal Clinic held in the Parish Room, Sturry, on the second Thursday in each month at 10.30 a.m.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Arrangements are in force for the investigation of Maternal Deaths and cases of Puerperal Pyrexia by the County Medical Officer. The District Medical Officer of Health notifies him of Maternal Deaths and sends to him duplicate notification certificates of Puerperal Pyrexia cases.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The County Council have made arrangements for cases notified in the United District to be admitted to the following Hospitals.

The Kent and Canterbury Hospital ;
The Ramsgate General Hospital ;
The Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone ;
The Thanet Public Assistance Hospital ;

if hospital treatment is asked for by the doctor in attendance. Arrangements have been made with Nursing Associations for their nurses to visit cases if required.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

The School Oculist holds an Ophthalmic Clinic from time to time at the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Mothercraft Club, St. Peter's Road, Broadstairs.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS.

The Clinic for the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District which is attended by A. L. Moreton, Esq., M.S., M.B., F.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent of the Alexandra Hospital, Swanley, is held at the School Clinic of the Borough of Margate, College Road, at 11.30 a.m. each Tuesday ; the surgeon's days are the first and third Tuesday in each month.

The Clinic for the Herne Bay Urban District and the Bridge-Blean Rural District is held at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, each Wednesday from 10.0 a.m. to about 1.0 p.m. ; the surgeon, A. B. Beresford Jones, Esq., M.S., M.B., is in attendance on that date.

CANCER.

At the under-mentioned voluntary Hospitals in the County the following specialized treatment is available :—

Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells. St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester. Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone. Victoria War Memorial Hospital, Deal. Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury	Deep X-Ray and Radium
Margate General Hospital	Deep X-Ray
West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone ...	Radium

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES.

The following are available for the inhabitants of the United District :—

Address.	Day and Time of Attending	
Canterbury : 11 Longport Street ...	Friday.	10.0 a.m. to 12 noon and 1.15 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.
Herne Bay : 16 High Street	Thursday.	2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.
Margate : 41 St. Peter's Road ...	Friday.	2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.
Ramsgate : Charlotte Cottage, Market-Place	Wednesday.	1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Tuberculosis Officers and Nurses attend at the Dispensaries, and the latter also visit patients in their own homes.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Arrangements have been made for the treatment of cases of Venereal Diseases by the County Council, and clinics approved by the Minister of Health, which are available for the inhabitants of the United Districts, have been provided as follows :—

Clinic.		Day and Time of Attending
Kent and Canterbury Hospital	Women ... Men ...	Tuesday, 4.0 to 5.0 p.m. Tuesday, 5.15 to 6.30 p.m.
Eaton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate	Women ... Men ...	Saturday, 2.30 to 4.0 p.m. Saturday, 4.0 to 5.30 p.m.
Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover	Women ...	Monday, 8.0 p.m. Thursday, 4.0 p.m.
	Men ...	Monday, 8.0 p.m. Thursday, 4.0 p.m.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT } Joint
WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT } Hospital.

The Hospital, which is built of brick and slate, is in an isolated position, situated about one mile from Herne Bay, and is erected on a piece of land about three acres in extent. There is accommodation for 16 patients in three separate ward blocks, allowing 144 square feet floor space per patient ; there is also a laundry and an administration block. The Nursing staff consists of a Matron, Sister, Staff Nurse and four Assistant Nurses, when obtained.

Water is obtained from the supply of the Herne Bay Water Company. The Hospital is connected with the main of the Herne Bay Gas Company, and also with the main drainage system of the Urban District.

It will be seen that the number of beds in this Hospital is inadequate for the needs of the district, provided that the scale of one bed per 1,000 of the population, which has hitherto been required by the Ministry of Health, is adhered to. The population to be served by this Hospital as estimated by the Registrar-General at the middle of 1938 was :—

Herne Bay Urban District	...	...	16,140
Whitstable Urban District	...	...	15,590
			31,730

If the accommodation is estimated in the proportion of one bed per 1,500 of the population, as it is understood to be the proportion required by the Ministry of Health now, then the number of beds should be 21.

In providing additional accommodation, the erection of a cubicle block would no doubt be the best method to be adopted ; a discharge block is also necessary.

The following diseases are treated in the Hospital : Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Cerebrospinal Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis, Encephalitis Lethargica and Puerperal Pyrexia. Cases of Measles and Erysipelas will only be admitted under very exceptional circumstances, and after consultation between the Medical Officer of Health concerned and the Medical Officer of the Hospital.

It is estimated for the financial year commencing 1st April, 1939, that the cost will be £1,200 for each District.

BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT, } Joint
BOROUGH OF MARGATE, BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE. } Hospital.

The Hospital is situated in the Borough of Ramsgate, and is about two miles from the centres of the towns of Margate and Broadstairs. The Nursing Staff consists of one Matron, one Assistant Matron, five Sisters, two Assistant Nurses and twelve Probationers. The Nursing Staff is increased temporarily when necessary.

Patients suffering from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Cerebrospinal Meningitis, Typhus or allied diseases are admitted ; also cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and certain cases of Measles suffering from serious complications which cannot be treated satisfactorily at home. In January, 1939,

the Joint Hospital Board decided that cases of Erysipelas could also be admitted.

The building, which was erected at the beginning of the century, the foundation stone being laid on the 29th October, 1900, consists of an administration block, two ward blocks for Scarlet Fever, one block for Typhoid Fever, and one for Diphtheria; a cubicle block with eight beds, three small huts, and an observation block, providing accommodation for about 100 patients, together with the necessary staff. There is a discharge block, also porter's lodge, steam disinfector, laundry, mortuary, ambulance station, etc., the whole standing on about ten acres of land.

The building is constructed of brick and tiles and is in good order. Gas is supplied by the Broadstairs Gas Company; electricity from the main of the Ramsgate and District Electricity Supply Company Ltd.; water is obtained from the supply of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council, and also from a deep well in the grounds. The Hospital is connected with the sewer of the Ramsgate Corporation.

There are four acres of land adjoining the Hospital belonging to the Board. On this land is situated a bungalow in which the Medical Officer lives. He devotes the whole of his time to the duties of his office. He is empowered to employ Consultants when necessary. The name of the Medical Officer is Ernest Harding-Freeland, F.R.C.S.Eng.

As a result of the Review of County Districts the constitution of the Board managing the Hospital was altered, and since the 1st April, 1936, has been as follows :—

Margate Borough	The Mayor and nine Members.
Ramsgate Borough	The Mayor and eight Members.
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	...The Chairman of the Counci and three Members.

The estimated cost of Isolation Hospital treatment for the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District for the coming year is £1,440.

Bridge-Blean Rural District.

For particulars regarding Isolation Hospital accommodation for this District see page 91.

SMALLPOX HOSPITALS.

Herne Bay Urban District.

The Smallpox Hospital of the Herne Bay Urban District Council still exists; it is not available for use owing to the fact that the Coastal Road is passing through part of the grounds.

In June, 1935, the equipment of this Hospital was removed to Poulton.

In the Spring of 1935 a temporary agreement was arrived at between the Herne Bay Urban District Council and the Corporation of the Borough of Dover, pending the coming into force of the scheme already submitted to the County Council, to receive into the Hospital at Poulton cases of Smallpox occurring in their District, the contribution payable being £49 15s. 0d. annually, but in view of the fact that the City of Canterbury entered into a similar agreement during the year 1938 the contribution is reduced.

In March, 1939, the Urban District Council decided to use the Hospital as a store for Air Raid Precautions equipment.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District, Borough of Margate, Borough of Ramsgate. } Joint Hospital.

There is a Hospital consisting of a corrugated iron building, containing 16 beds, allowing 144 square feet floor space per patient, and managed by the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board. It is situated in the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's and in close proximity to the Joint Isolation Hospital, being separated from it by the disused Southern Railway Line. It is close to the main Ramsgate-Margate road, and the population of the area surrounding it is steadily increasing. Two caretakers—a man and his wife—live in the Hospital, and a trained Nurse on the staff of the Isolation Hospital is available at all times. The Medical Officer of the Joint Isolation Hospital attends the patients.

Bridge-Blean Rural District.

In the Spring of 1935 a temporary agreement was arrived at between the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council and the Corporation of the Borough of Dover, similar to the one entered into between the Herne Bay Urban District Council and the Corporation, the contribution payable being £29 0s. 0d. annually, but in view of the fact that the City of Canterbury entered into a similar agreement during the year 1938, the contribution is reduced.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

There is only one voluntary hospital situated in the United District for dealing with cases of illness and accident, and that is the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital at Herne Bay. Patients from the United District attend the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, the Ramsgate General Hospital and the Margate and District General Hospital. Patients suffering from disease of the ear, eye, nose and throat receive treatment at the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone, and also in the Hospitals mentioned above. Number of beds: Herne Bay Hospital, 34 beds; Kent and Canterbury Hospital, 181; and the Ramsgate and Margate Hospitals, 100 beds each.

Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, Herne Bay.

This Hospital is planned on the bungalow principle and accommodates 34 patients' beds, nine for men, nine for women, six for children and ten for private patients. All the wards are on the ground floor; in the centre is the Administration Block and main entrance. There is a Casualty Block, also an X-ray Department, Operating Theatre Block with the usual accessories, and Central Heating. Ventilation is by special pattern hospital windows. On the upper floor are the rooms of the nursing and domestic staff.

Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

The main buildings of this Hospital are planned as a triangle and accommodates 181 patients. The ground floor consists of Children's and Private Patients' Wards facing the garden; the Out-Patients' Department, in the apex of the triangle; the special departments—Therapy, X-ray, Massage, etc., in the centre; the Administrative Offices, with staff, Patients' and Casualty entrances on the main north-west front; and the Kitchen and Stores, Dispensary and Ambulance Garage on the north-east front, opening to the Goods Court.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA.

There is no institution situated in the United District for the residential treatment of Tuberculosis provided by Local Authorities or the County Council, but there is a Sanatorium which was built and is maintained by the County Council at Lenham, in mid-Kent, having accommodation for 165 patients (90 male and 75 female). The patients suffering from Tuberculosis of bones and joints, as well as other cases of surgical Tuberculosis are admitted for treatment at the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate, where 40 beds are available.

The following Sanatoria and residential institutions approved by the Minister of Health for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis are situated in the District :—

Anthony and Anne Muller Convalescent Home and School, Broadstairs (for convalescent non-pulmonary cases in Jewish children only).

The Bishopsbourne Home, Broadstairs (for " Intermediate " and Afebrile cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in adult males only).

The Holy Cross Convalescent Home for Girls, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs (for non-pulmonary cases only, excluding bone and joint cases requiring orthopaedic treatment).

The Old Manor House, Crow Hill, Broadstairs (for " Intermediate " and Afebrile cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in adult females only).

Tait Convalescent Home, Broadstairs (for convalescent " surgical " cases, females over 14 years of age only).

Victoria Convalescent Home, Broadstairs (for non-pulmonary cases in children only, from London County Council).

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 187, Formerly the Nursing Homes (Registration) Act, 1927.

This Act came into force on the 1st July, 1928. All the powers and duties under the Act were transferred by the County Council to two of the three District Councils.

During the year 1938 in the Herne Bay Urban District one Nursing Home ceased to exist in February, so that at the end of the year there were four Nursing Homes in the District.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District two Nursing Homes ceased to exist, one in March and one in July, the latter owing to the death of the owner ; so that at the end of the year there were ten Nursing Homes on the Register.

In the Bridge-Blean Rural District the provisions of the Act have not been delegated by the County Council to the Council of this District.

CONVALESCENT HOMES.

District.	Convalescent Homes.		Holiday Homes.	
	No.	Accommodation for about	No.	Accommodation. for about
Herne Bay U.D. ...	8	599	8	315
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. ...	14	1,200	4	122

SCHOOLS.

The elementary schools in the United District are under the control of the Kent Education Committee. They are visited from time to time by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspectors, and the sanitary arrangements inspected; also investigations made with regard to cases of infectious disease occurring among the scholars.

There are many good class boarding schools situated in the United District, mostly of a preparatory nature, particularly in Broadstairs and St. Peter's. Most of them are provided with sanatoria in which scholars suffering from infectious diseases can be isolated. As far as is known the sanitary arrangements in connection with these schools and the water supply may be considered satisfactory. As a rule each school has its own medical attendant, who not only treats the pupils, but advises the principals on matters of hygiene. It does not appear that the Medical Officer of Health has any power of entry to these private boarding schools and therefore is not responsible for their sanitation. He can only deal with defects he may discover in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease or nuisance which may occur and require abating.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The importance of the provision of a pure milk supply for the United District has continued to be recognized and steps have been taken to ensure that the milk supplied to the inhabitants was of a reasonable standard of cleanliness, and for this purpose samples of "Ordinary" milk were sent for bacteriological examination, and numerous visits were paid to the Dairies and Cowsheds during the year by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspectors.

Samples of Graded Milk were sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination in order to see whether the milk, as produced and sold, confirmed with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Samples of milk were also sent to the Laberatory for examination to discover by means of tests whether or not Tubercle Bacilli were present.

"Accredited" Milk.

A scheme for the payment of bonuses on milk produced under a "Grade A" licence issued by the County Council came into operation on the 1st May, 1935; those who produced milk under this scheme are called "Accredited Producers." Approval of the premises in the first place is left to the County Agricultural Organizer, and bacteriological examinations of the milk are made quarterly at the County Bacteriological Laboratory. Samples of the milk are taken by the Sanitary Inspectors in the districts and forwarded to Maidstone. Meetings between the County Agricultural Organizer and the Sanitary Inspector in each district are arranged in order to promote co-operation between the Kent County Council and the District Councils. It is very necessary that the officials of the County Council and those of the District Councils should

work together, because the responsibility of carrying out the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, rests with the District Councils.

At the end of the year the following producers were licensed as "Accredited" Milk Producers :—

Herne Bay Urban District	4
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District ...	3
Bridge-Blean Rural District	20

Milk Supply in Schools.

Since the 1st October, 1934, one-third of a pint of milk has been supplied to school children at a cost of ½d. per bottle.

The Kent Education Committee, through their Schools, are purchasers of large quantities of milk, and it has been decided that every possible precaution should be taken to ensure that it is of good quality.

Samples of school milk are sent to the County Laboratory by the School Inquiry Officers for bacteriological examination and examination for tubercle.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	103	95	—
Diphtheria	25	25	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	—
Pneumonia	46	8	24
Erysipelas	18	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	3	3	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum... ...	2	1	—
Malaria	1	1	—
Chickenpox	183	—	—
Total	383	134	25

The total deaths given are not the net deaths.

"Return" cases 5 Scarlet Fever.

The following table gives the number of cases of Diphtheria treated in the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital during the past four years with the Mortality :—

31st March	No. of Cases Treated	Mortality
1935 ...	145 ...	5.8 per cent.
1936 ...	74 ...	5.4 ,, ,,
1937 ...	40 ...	7.5 ,, ,,
1938 ...	56 ...	5.2 ,, ,,

Prevention of Blindness.

The County Council ~~have~~ decided that the whole of their scheme for the assisting in the prevention of blindness should be put into force on the 1st January, 1939.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in the United District.

TUBERCULOSIS: NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1 ...	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	1
5 ...	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
15 ...	4	3	2	2	1	—	—	—
25 ...	4	3	—	—	1	3	—	—
35 ...	4	2	1	1	—	3	—	—
45 ...	10	4	—	—	5	3	—	—
55 ...	3	2	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	4	—	1	1	2	—	—
Total ...	27	18	10	7	12	11	—	1

Included in the above totals are 5 cases (Pulmonary) which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer through the Death Returns. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 5 to 24

NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS REMAINING ON THE REGISTERS OF THE THREE DISTRICTS ON 31st DECEMBER, 1938.

District.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Herne Bay U.D.	35	23	13	13
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. ...	36	28	10	15
Bridge-Blean R.D.	29	19	15	9
Total	100	70	38	37

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	8,566 acres.
Population, 1938 (Registrar-General)	16,140
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	5,693
Rateable Value	£167,127
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£631

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.		Herne Bay U.D.	England & Wales
Live Births—	170	95	75	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	10.53	15.1
Legitimate	163	92	71			
Illegitimate	7	3	4			
Stillbirths—	4	1	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	22.98	Not available.
Deaths—	246	116	130	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	15.24	11.6
				Adjusted Death Rate.	11.27	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

		Deaths	Rate per		
No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	1,000 total	Nil	0.86
No. 30.	Other puerperal causes ...	1	(live and	5.74	2.11
	Total...	1	still) births	5.74	2.97

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

	Herne Bay U.D.	England & Wales
All infants per 1,000 live births	29	53
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	30	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	Nil	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	44	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1938.

	Males.	Females.
All Causes	116	130
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2. Measles	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Influenza	3	3
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8. Cerebrospinal Fever	—	—
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	4	7
10. Other Tuberculosis	—	—
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes, etc.	1	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	18	26
14. Diabetes	2	—
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage	9	11
16. Heart Disease	30	31
17. Aneurysm	1	1
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	4	3
19. Bronchitis	3	1
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	7	8
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—
22. Peptic Ulcer	1	1
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—
24. Appendicitis	1	—
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	2
27. Other Digestive Diseases	3	3
28. Nephritis	5	7
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	1
31. Congenital Causes, etc.	2	2
32. Senility	3	6
33. Suicide	—	2
34. Other Violence	7	3
35. Other Defined Causes	11	11
36. Ill-defined Causes	—	1
37. Diarrhoea (2 years and over)	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above) :		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

*Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
*Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.
Private Street Works Act, 1892.
*Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Parts 2 to 10 inc.).
*Public Health Act, 1925.
*Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, Section 6.

* (Certain Sections of these Acts were repealed by the Public Health Act. 1936).

In addition to the foregoing, the Council exercise the powers contained in the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.

BYE-LAWS, REGULATIONS AND ORDERS, RELATING TO :—

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.
Nuisances.
Slaughter-houses.
Houses let in Lodgings.
Common Lodging-houses.
Offensive Trades.
New Streets and Buildings.
Nursing Home Regulations.
Regulations for Underground Sleeping Rooms.
Infectious Diseases Order, Chickenpox.
Removal of House Refuse.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

(SECTIONS 187 TO 194 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936).

Return of the work of the Council during 1938.				
	Number of Homes.	Number of Patients provided for :—		
		Maternity Patients.	Others.	Totals.
Homes first registered during the year ...	—	—	—	—
Homes on the register at the end of the year ...	4	7	12	19

ACTION DURING 1938.

Twelve inspections were made by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Forty-nine live births and two still births in the Urban District took place in three Nursing Homes.

Mortuary.

On the 14th June, a complaint having been received by the Public Health Committee with regard to the Mortuary, an inspection was made that day by the Committee : the members formed the opinion that it was desirable that in view of the increase in the size of the Urban District a new Mortuary should be provided with up-to-date fittings. The Surveyor and Medical Officer of Health having reported on the subject, in July the Public Health Committee resolved to recommend the Council to erect a new Mortuary at the Council's Depot. Plans and estimates were approved by the Council at their meeting on the 23rd November.

Meteorological Station.

The site of the station is an open space in front of the Pier, which was approved by the Air Ministry. The usual instruments are kept at the station, viz., a maximum and minimum thermometer, wet and dry bulb hygrometer, a rain gauge and sunshine recorder. At the Pier is kept the Fortins Standard Barometer. The station is in charge of the Surveyor and a specially appointed Officer prepares the necessary reports, etc., and sends daily telegrams which are accepted for inclusion in the daily press bulletins. The total sunshine recorded for the year was 1809.3 hours, and the rainfall 21.27 inches.

Legal Proceedings.

Legal Proceedings were taken in the Urban District on the 26th January ; one case was for failure to comply with an Abatement Notice served pursuant to the Public Health Act, 1936, in connection with a caravan ; and in the other case a producer of milk was summoned for contravening Article 22 (4) of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and for failure to comply with an Abatement Notice served pursuant to the Public Health Act, 1936. In the first case an Order was made to be complied with within 14 days ; in the second a fine of £5 was imposed ; and in the third an Order to be complied with within 14 days was made.

On the 30th March proceedings were taken against two milk roundsmen in the Urban District, for contravention of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1936 (Article 31 (2)). In the first case a fine of £1 was imposed, and in the second two fines of £1 each.

Also on the 30th March proceedings were taken against a man for failure to comply with an Abatement Notice served pursuant to the Public Health Act, 1936, in connection with a caravan on land near Bogshole Bridge. Orders were made (i) prohibiting recurrence of nuisance and directing execution of necessary works to prevent a recurrence ; and (ii) prohibiting the use of the caravan for human habitation upon land within the Urban District.

Public Sanitary Conveniences.

The Public Conveniences came under the control of the Health Committee in April, 1937, and it is the duty of the Senior Sanitary Inspector to supervise the conveniences and staff. He is assisted by a lady supervisor of the conveniences for females and during the year she made 930 inspections.

There are ten public conveniences owned by the Urban District Council, some of which have full-time attendants. A further 31 conveniences, to which the public have access, belong to licensed premises and at four of these the Council undertake the lighting and daily cleansing.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

Water is supplied to the Urban District by the Herne Bay Waterworks Company. A constant supply is available. The sources of supply are three deep wells, situated at Ford, in the Urban District, about two miles out of the town. The wells are 170 feet deep, sunk into solid chalk; they are connected at a point 15 feet from the lowest part in the chalk. Adits of a total length of about 2,000 feet are cut into the chalk in various directions. At the beginning of the year 1933 it was found that a Paterson's Chloronome had been installed in November, 1932.

The water is pumped from Ford direct to the reservoirs at Mickleburgh Hill, in the Urban District. One reservoir is of modern construction, and is built of cement concrete and domed over in cement, and further protected with a layer of earth averaging two feet in thickness. The size of the reservoir is 100 feet by 80 feet, and 15 feet deep, and the capacity 750,000 gallons. A second reservoir (the original reservoir of the Water Company) was reconstructed in 1937; it is constructed of cement concrete, domed over in cement and covered with a layer of earth two feet in thickness, similar to the existing large reservoir. It has a capacity of 350,000 gallons, which added to the 750,000 gallons of the existing reservoir, gives a total storage capacity of 1,100,000 gallons.

A water tower constructed of steel is erected at the reservoir station at Mickleburgh Hill, for the purpose of maintaining a constant supply of water to the houses situated on high ground which cannot be supplied from the reservoirs. The tower supports a tank 30 feet in diameter and 12 feet deep, of a capacity of 60,000 gallons. The height of the tower above ground level to water level is 78 feet, the height of the water level above sea level being 201 feet. The tank is filled from the reservoirs by auxiliary pumps.

The average daily consumption of water for the whole area supplied by the Water Company is :—

Summer	...	...	...	700,000 gallons
Winter	...	...	...	400,000 gallons

Samples of water have been examined bacteriologically and chemically quarterly on behalf of the Urban District Council and found to be satisfactory. Weekly samples have been examined on behalf of the Herne Bay Waterworks Company. At a meeting of the Public Health Committee of the Urban District Council held on the 6th December it was decided that samples of water should be examined bacteriologically once a month instead of once a quarter.

At Herne Common the water is pumped into elevated tanks, from whence it gravitates to the houses to be served in that area.

A portion of the Urban District is not provided with a main water supply and a survey of all properties in the areas concerned has revealed that there are now 90 houses which are served by wells, springs and rainwater tanks :—

64 houses are served by 42 wells.

15 houses are served by 5 springs.

11 houses are served by 10 rainwater tanks.

In addition, there are four houses which are supplied by main water which is transported by vehicles.

Water from all of the above-mentioned sources has now been examined bacteriologically and chemically, and the following are the results of the examinations :—

No. of Samples taken and source of Supply.	Results.
42 (From 42 Wells)	9 Satisfactory. 33 Unfit.
5 (From 5 Springs)	3 Satisfactory. 2 Unfit.
10 (From 10 Rainwater tanks)	8 Satisfactory. 2 Unfit.

During the year 1938 three polluted wells have been closed, which formerly served 11 houses. Nine of these houses are now provided with main water supply, and the other two houses have been supplied with underground rainwater storage tanks.

Four houses formerly supplied with water from standpipes situated externally, have now been provided with internal water supply.

Appeal to the Ministry of Health.—In one instance it was found that two houses served with water from a polluted spring, were within a short distance of the water main. On being satisfied that the work could be carried out at reasonable expense, the Council gave instructions for notices to be served upon the owner in pursuance of Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936, calling for the provision of a pure supply of wholesome water at each cottage. The owner appealed against this requirement, but on the 31st December, the Ministry of Health had not fixed a date for the hearing of the appeal.

Application to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.—The Urban District Council gave instructions for application to be made to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to secure the closure of a polluted well in pursuance of Section 140 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Since giving these instructions, certain work has been carried out at the well and further action is deferred pending results of reports upon the water.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The scheme for the sewerage of the old Urban District was prepared and carried out by the late Mr. Baldwin Latham, and a large portion of the urban area was sewered under his supervision. The sewage is carried by gravitation to an outfall which discharges into the sea at a point below low water mark, the outlet not being exposed at any time. A separate system for dealing with surface water exists for the greater part of the area, and this system is being extended. A pumping station situated in the centre of the town and near the seashore is provided for the purpose of preventing flooding of cellars and basements during heavy rains when the sewers are tide locked. There is a second pumping station at the western end of the town lifting the sewage from a low level sewer at that end of the district to the high level gravitation sewer.

During 1935 a new underground pumping station at the land end of the sea outfall was constructed, in which have been housed electrically-driven disintegrating pumps to enable three or four times the dry weather flow to be disintegrated before discharge, and to empty the tank sewers in about one-tenth of the time that this could be effected by gravitation.

A joint system of sewerage and sewage disposal for that part of the Urban District which formerly consisted of the parishes of Herne and Reculver of the Blean Rural District, was provided by the Council of that District and completed in the year 1914, and takes the drainage of the most thickly populated portion of that area. The sewage disposal works are situated at May Street, in the parish of Reculver, and consist of grit chambers, Dibdin slate beds, Humus tanks, contact clinker beds, and finally effluent ponds, from which the discharge is into an open water-course which eventually discharges into the sea.

Many improvements have been carried out on these works. The air compressing engines have been overhauled, and improvements to the Detritus chambers have been carried out. New sludge drying beds have been constructed, etc. The Council are considering the advisability of reconstructing these works.

A new low-lying drainage area to take the newly-developed Bishopstone Manor Estate, and the drainage from certain private streets now developing in this area, was constructed in 1936, and a compressed air ejector station to lift the sewage from this area into the sewers gravitating to the Herne and Reculver Sewage Disposal Works was installed. The low-lying drainage area, in which is situated Lower Broomfield Road and Gorse Lane, was dealt with in a similar manner.

In 1936 a new trunk sewer was constructed to deal with the greater portion of the area south of the Southern Railway lying between Thornden Wood Road, Western Lane and Greenhill Road. This sewer has its outlet at the Westbrook Pumping Station and follows the existing brook to Weston Road and passes along Weston Road to Greenhill Road. Its immediate effect has been to deal with the new Greenhill Grove Estate. In 1937 six unmade private streets in this area were sewered both for foul and surface water and the existing cesspools abolished.

The extension of a sewer at West End made it possible to provide the Isolation Hospital with main drainage and the two cesspools which previously served this Hospital have been abolished.

On the 28th July, 1937, the Council adopted the recommendation of the Law and General Purposes Committee that Messrs. Howard Humphreys and Sons, of 17 Victoria Street, Westminster, London, report upon the sewerage of the whole Urban area as it now exists, together with advice as to what should be the Council's general future policy, and give an estimate of the cost of those steps which should be taken now.

The reports of the Consulting Engineers, having been considered at three Special Meetings of the Council in June and July, it was resolved that the Council adopt the proposals set out in the reports dealing with the sewerage of the added area; and that Messrs. Howard Humphreys and Sons be instructed to proceed with the preparation of the necessary plans, sections, etc.

Flood.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector reports as follows with regard to the disastrous flood which occurred on the night of the 12th February :—

" One hundred and seventeen houses and nineteen shops were flooded to depths varying from a foot to eight feet, the whole ground floor of some houses being completely submerged. These properties were sprayed above and beneath the floors with a germicide after the flood water had subsided, and this work was completed in four days, with the aid of a temporary staff, at a cost of £18 12s. 0d.

" A local distress fund was formed, and a total of £352 was collected and allotted to sixty-eight victims whose household effects had been destroyed and were not covered by insurance. Each application for relief was carefully investigated before recommending the Flood Distress Committee to make payments."

Rivers and Streams.

The work of securing the cleansing and regrading of ditches in the district has proceeded throughout the year and has resulted in the cleansing and regrading of nine ditches. In six instances it was found necessary to serve statutory notices to secure the execution of the necessary works.

Closet Accommodation.

During the year eight houses previously served by cesspools were connected to the sewer and the cesspools abolished. A further five houses previously served by pail closets were provided with drainage systems connected to the sewer and the pail closets abolished.

At the end of the year the approximate number of each type of sanitary convenience in the Urban District was :—

W.C's. into drainage system	6,695
W.C's. into cesspools	69
Pail Closets	87

Public Cleansing.

The house refuse is collected bi-weekly (with the exception of the area in the centre of the Town and from Hotels, Boarding-houses, etc., where a daily

collection is made). Two 10 cubic yard "Thornycroft" dustless and low loading vehicles and two tipping carts are in continual use. In the old Parishes of Herne and Reculver the refuse is collected by Contract, the Council providing two covered refuse collection carts. The present contract for the collection of house refuse in the added area ceased at the end of February, 1939, when the collection was undertaken by the Council.

The average weekly amounts of refuse collected during the winter is 310 cubic yards; during the summer months it becomes necessary to augment the whole rolling stock by the use of a six-ton "Fordson" and trailer for the collection of trade refuse.

All the refuse is tipped on a site near Broomfield, approximately three miles from the centre of the Town and covered with soil, on controlled tipping lines.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector reports as follows with regard to refuse receptacles:—

"During the year an attempt has been made to ensure the provision of suitable receptacles for the reception of domestic refuse.

"The familiar spectacle of rows of buckets, galvanized baths, and old boxes upon the pavement on refuse collection days has long been deplored. The passing into law of the Public Health Act, 1936, gave an opportunity to tackle this problem, and by co-operation with the Council's Surveyor, a survey of the district was made, and as a result, preliminary notices requiring the provision of suitable dustbins were served upon the owners of 416 properties: 400 of these were complied with at the end of the year, five dustbins being provided by the Council in default of the owners after service of statutory notices.

"If taken to Court to recover expenses for the provision of a dustbin, a defaulting owner is liable to a fine of twenty shillings in addition to expenses and cost of the dustbin."

The emptying of cesspools in the portion of the Blean Rural District, which was added to the Herne Bay Urban District in 1934, is carried out, as is the refuse collection, under the supervision of the Surveyor. A motor cesspool exhauster fitted with gulley emptying and flushing apparatus is used for dealing with the cesspools where the ground is sufficiently hard to withstand this vehicle and elsewhere by means of a horse-drawn cart and hand-operated pump. The contractor undertaking the emptying of cesspools in the added area terminated his contract at the end of February, 1939, when the work was undertaken by the Council by direct labour.

The number of cesspools now emptied is 88 and negotiations are in hand to abolish a certain number of these. The contents of all cesspools are emptied into public sewers.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following are the particulars supplied to the Medical Officer of Health by the Senior Sanitary Inspector with regard to the sanitary inspection of the area:—

(a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year :—

Dwelling-houses inspected for defects under the Housing and Public Health Acts	200
Re-inspections to supervise repairs in progress	610
Council houses inspected to ensure cleanliness	18
Furniture and effects of prospective Council house tenants inspected	11
Houses measured to ascertain "permitted number" (90 certificates issued)	72
Overcrowding inspections and re-inspections	14
Houses inspected in connection with Children's Country Holiday Homes and Nursing Homes	12
Disinfestation, inspections and re-inspections	46
Visits made to remedy dirty conditions in privately owned dwellings	11
Water samples submitted to K.C.C. for bacteriological and chemical examination	90
Visits made in connection with well water supplies	69
Visits and re-visits to secure abolition of cesspools	14
Visits and re-visits to secure abolition of pail closets	42
Infectious disease enquiries	93
Visits to arrange disinfection	99
Disinfection of rooms and bedding carried out	220
Butchers' shops inspected and re-inspected	115
Dairies and Cowsheds inspected and re-inspected	163
Milk samples submitted to K.C.C. for T.B. examination and bacteriological reports	79
Milk examined on the highway for sediment	10
Premises registered for sale of milk in sealed receptacles only ...	10
Ice cream premises visited	20
Ice cream samples submitted to K.C.C. for bacteriological examination	16
Slaughterhouses and meat inspection	568
Inspection and re-inspection of bakehouses	51
Inspection of miscellaneous food preparing places	7
Inspection of factories (excluding bakehouses)	10
Shops Acts inspection and re-inspections	64
Female Domestic Servants Registry Offices	1
Under Petroleum Acts	71
To secure removal of accumulations	20
Stables, inspections and re-inspections	1
Piggeries, inspections and re-inspections	7
Drains tested (existing and newly constructed)	58
Visits and re-visits to secure cleansing of ditches	33
Visits to supervise public conveniences (930 visits to Ladies' Conveniences)	1253
Under Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	119
Tents, Vans and Sheds (including holiday camps)	228
Visits to secure removal of gipsy caravans	27
Common Lodging Houses	3
To secure abatement of smoke nuisances	7
Interviews to secure compliance with various sanitary requirements	866
To secure provision of dustbins	981
Visits in connection with Flood, February, 1938	353

Visits in connection with A.R.P. Casualty Services	118
Inspection of sanitary accommodation, etc., at schools ...	29
Total	6909

(b) Number of Notices served :—

Statutory Notices—	
Housing Act, 1936	34
Public Health Act, 1936	36
Informal Notices	751
Total	821

(c) The result of the service of such Notices :—

Houses demolished voluntarily by owners	3
Houses closed compulsorily under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	1
Houses closed compulsorily under Section 25, Housing Act, 1936	5
Houses redrained to the sewer (previous system defective) ...	7
Surface water drainage provided	7
Drains repaired or relaid	40
Drains unstopped	17
Inspection chambers provided	17
Water closet compartments disconnected from habitable rooms	1
Water closet compartments constructed	4
Water closet pans renewed	17
Water closet pans cleansed	6
Water closet box seats removed and hinged lift-up seats provided	22
Additional sanitary accommodation provided	14
Soil pipes and drain vent pipes renewed or repaired	14
Insanitary sinks renewed	25
Sink and bath waste pipes trapped	41
Urinal renewed	1
Cesspools abolished and premises connected to sewer ...	8
Flooded cellars made water-tight	1
Pail closets abolished and premises connected to sewer ...	5
Roofs repaired or renewed	44
Rainwater downspouts and eavesgutters repaired or renewed ...	63
Dampness remedied	109
Sub-floor ventilation provided or improved	22
Brickwork renewed or repaired	9
Rooms cleansed and re-decorated	27
Light and ventilation of staircases and rooms improved ...	41
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	92
Floors repaired or renewed	46
Window frames repaired or renewed	48
Sashcords renewed	22
Doors repaired	17
Stoves and firegrates repaired or renewed	50
Coppers repaired	11
Handrails provided to staircases	8
Stairtreads renewed	1
Dustbins provided	400
Overcrowding abated	7

Defective chimney stacks repaired	34
Furniture and effects of incoming tenants disinfected by "Cyanide"	5
Houses disinfected by "Cescones"	5
Foodstores provided	18
Yards paved	20
Water tanks abolished and properties connected to main supply...	1
Polluted wells closed and properties connected to main supply ...	2
Underground tanks constructed for conserving rainwater for domestic supply	1
Standpipes abolished and internal water supply provided ...	6
Separate and additional water supply provided	1
Leaking water services repaired	4
Wells cleansed and internal brickwork rendered	1
Spring water protected by construction of concrete tank at point of issue	1
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	15
Food Preparing Places :	
Slaughterhouses constructed and improved	3
Butchers' shops cleansed	1
Contraventions arising from conveyance of uncovered meat...	2
Bakehouses cleansed and sanitary conditions improved ...	4
Cowsheds and Dairies :	
Structural improvements to cowsheds	2
Unsatisfactory dairy farm closed down	1
Fish frying range of modern construction installed	1
Accumulations removed	18
Nuisances abated in connection with keeping of animals ...	4
Miscellaneous defects remedied	24
Rat complaints dealt with	119
Smoke nuisance abated	4
Nuisances abated arising from tents, vans and sheds	55
Ditches cleansed	9
Disused petrol tanks filled with water (Home Office requirement)	2
Disused petrol pumps abolished	1
Total	1637

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power	13	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	41	—	—
***Other Premises** under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	54	—	—

* Electrical Stations reckoned as factories.

2. Defects Found.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Prosecutions. (5)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Convenience (S.7) Insufficient...	1	1	—	—
Total ...	5	5	—	—

Shops and Offices.

During the year there were 64 inspections and re-inspections of shops made by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, in conjunction with inspections for the general administration of the Shops Acts. Four shops were found to be without sufficient sanitary accommodation or sufficient washing facilities, and these facilities were provided in compliance with preliminary notices. Exemption certificates were granted respecting the provision of suitable and sufficient water closets and washing facilities at two properties where such accommodation was otherwise conveniently available at adjacent premises. In one further instance, a statutory notice was served requiring the provision of washing facilities at a butcher's shop : this notice was not complied with and the shop is now unoccupied.

Instructions were received in a circular issued by the Ministry of Health, urging local authorities to arrange for systematic inspection of offices in their area, with a view to ascertaining the conditions and the need for improvements as regards sanitary accommodation, ventilation and prevention of overcrowding. Consequent upon the wide definition of " work-place " in Section 343 of the Public Health Act, 1936, provision which formerly had a more limited application, now apply to all places of clerical employment, and removes the doubt which previously existed, as to the extent to which local authorities had control over conditions in offices. A circular letter was accordingly addressed by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, to the persons having control of 50 offices in the district and these will be inspected as and when it will be possible to do so.

Camping Sites.

There was a considerable increase in the number of organized camps held in the district during the summer season of 1938, and they were subject to periodical visits by the Senior Sanitary Inspector. Camping is officially encouraged in connection with the National Fitness Campaign, but there is need for great vigilance to secure satisfactory sanitary and other requirements.

The Public Health Act, 1936, conferred upon Local Authorities the power to licence camping sites used for moveable dwellings, and upon the recommendation of the Public Health Committee, the Urban District Council took advantage of these powers to control camping. Sites were licensed subject to compliance with the Council's requirements regarding the following matters:—

(a) The number and classes of moveable dwellings which may be kept upon the site at any one time;

(b) The amount of space to be kept free between any two dwellings;

(c) Water supply;

(d) Sanitary accommodation, number, kind and separate facilities for the sexes;

(e) Arrangements for the disposal of waste water and domestic refuse; and

(f) Efficient general sanitary control of the site and conduct of the campers.

In compliance with these requirements, buildings were constructed of brickwork at two camping grounds, comprising water closets and ablution rooms, with separate facilities for the sexes. At both camps there is main drainage and main water supply.

The following particulars show the number of sites licensed etc. :—

1.	The number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1938 ...	13
2.	The number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	6
3.	The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1938	1,000 (approx.) in August.

In addition to licensing sites for moveable dwellings, the local authority may grant licences in respect of individual structures, *e.g.*, tents or caravans, and three applications for this type of licence were received : two of these were refused.

Smoke Abatement.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector reports that "emission of black smoke continues to be observed at various times from the chimney of a local laundry, where there is a boiler fuelled with low grade bituminous coal. Some improvement has been effected by insisting upon improved methods of stoking, but the only permanent solution of the problem with the existing boiler, will be the use of a smokeless fuel, such as coke. The smoke problem, fortunately, is almost non-existent at Herne Bay."

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the Urban District. At the

Council's Bathing Establishment care is taken to disinfect the costumes which are let on hire to bathers.

National Health and Fitness Campaign.

Arrangements were made for the display of posters in the Urban District with regard to the National Health and Fitness Campaign.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year a total of five verminous houses were dealt with, including two Council Houses : these were disinfested by the application of " Cescones." Disinfestation work of this nature, carried out on behalf of private owners is charged for by the Council.

The furniture and effects of all incoming Council House tenants are inspected for evidence of vermin before removal : in one instance bugs were found and the furniture was subjected to treatment by " Hydrogen Cyanide " before removal in to the Council House. The furniture and effects of four tenants removed from houses scheduled for demolition by the Park Road Clearance Order, were also treated by application of " Hydrogen Cyanide " before removal in to the Council Houses.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Powers and duties under the Act have been delegated to the District Council, and during the year 119 rat complaints were dealt with by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

During National Rat Week the Ministry's film " Your Enemy the Rat," was shown at the Odeon Cinema by courtesy of the Manager. During that week " Red Squill " was supplied free on application to 40 persons ; the refuse tip and sewers were baited ; and copies of the Ministry's bulletin on rat destruction were distributed.

An essay competition, dealing with the rat menace, was promoted in conjunction with the Head Teachers of Elementary Schools, and several prizes were awarded for the best essays submitted by the children.

An article upon rat destruction was inserted in the local newspaper. It has been found that much interest was aroused in the problem of rat destruction, and the large number of enquiries which are still received, show that this interest has been maintained.

Schools.

There are four public elementary schools in the Urban District : the Herne Bay Council School, consisting of three departments—Boy's, Girls' and Infants' ; Herne C.E. School ; Reculver C.E. School and St. Mary's Catholic School. The three last mentioned Schools are mixed Girls' and Boys' Schools.

At all the Schools the sanitary accommodation consists of water closets and the drainage is connected to the sewers. The water supply is laid on from the mains of the Herne Bay Waterworks Company.

During the year the wash-hand basins in the Infants' Department of the Council School were renewed, and the cement-faced urinal replaced by glazed stoneware slabs. At the Herne C.E. School the unpaved portion of the playing ground was paved.

There are four large private boarding schools in the Urban District; where the sanitary conditions are of a satisfactory character; and a number of smaller private schools, principally carried on at private dwelling-houses.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses During the Year:

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	194
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	610
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	103
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	505
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	18
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects resonably fit for human habitation	176

2. Remedy of Defects During the Year Without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	100

3.—Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year.

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:		
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	11
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
		(a) By Owners	11
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:		
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects are remedied after service of formal notices:—	
		(a) By owners	—
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

(c) Proeeedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respeet of whieh Demolition Orders were made 3

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuanee of Demolition Orders

(d) Proeeedings under Seetion 12 of the Housing Aet, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respeet of which Closing Orders were made —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respeet of whieh Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overerowded at the end of the year ... 2

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 2

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 16

(b) Number of new cases of overerowding reported during the year 2

(e) (i) Number of cases of overerowding relieved during the year 7

(ii) Number of persons eoncerned in sueh cases 58

(d) Partieulars of any eases in whieh dwelling-houses have again beeome overcrowded after the Loeal Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overerowding —

(e) Any other partieulars with respeet to overerowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may eonsider it desirable to report :—

During the past year the Counеil constructed four houses having four bedrooms each, and also aequired a large existing house, whieh was converted into two flats. The difficulty of plaeing overerowded families in these houses revealed that the problem of abating overerowding is largely economic.

Under Section 5 of the Aet power is given to a Loeal Authority to authorize the temporary use of a house by persons in exeess of the permitted number, and for this purpose may grant a licence to the occupier or intending occupier of a dwelling-house in their Distriet. This licenee shall continue in foree for a period not exceeding twelve months, or may be revoked by the Loeal Authority at their discretion. This appears to be an important provision affeeting seaside towns where many oeeupiers take in visitors during the season.

Particulars of Representations, Etc.

Representations were made in January in respect of five houses (Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Park Road, Herne Bay) with a view to a Clearanee Order being made. The Public Health Committee having been satisfied, on the representations made by the Medical Officer of Health, that the statutory resolutions should be passed, the necessary recommendations were made to the Council for the making of a Clearance Order and this was done. The houses were demolished in February.

In February representations were made in respect of Nos. 22 and 23 King Street, Herne Bay ; the owner was interviewed on the 12th April and at the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on the 10th May, an undertaking was accepted that No. 23 should be closed to the satisfaction of the Council at the end of six months ; and at a meeting held on the 14th June an undertaking was accepted that No. 22 should be closed to the satisfaction of the Council not later than 30th September, 1939.

Also in February a representation was made in connection with " Elm Cottage," Braggs Lane, Herne and after inspection by the Committee a Demolition Order was made in July. The cottage was demolished in March, 1939.

In March the Council accepted plans for alterations, under the Agricultural Workers Act, to Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Reculver Cottages, represented as unfit in October, 1937.

A representation was made in March in respect of an underground dwelling (No. 55A Mortimer Street) ; and in June the Council accepted an undertaking not to use the dwelling for human habitation.

Representations were made in June in respect of Nos. 1 and 2 Malthouse Cottages, and also in respect of Nos. 1 and 2 Colewood Cottages, under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

In July representations were made in respect of Nos. 1-10, Chapel Cottages, Herne, under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. At a Special Meeting of the Public Health Committee held on the 8th November, it was reported that the owner of Nos. 1 and 2 and the owner of Nos. 3 and 4, had both agreed to sign an undertaking to carry out works in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Senior Sanitary Inspector ; and at a Special Meeting of the Public Health Committee held on the 6th December, a report was received that the owner of No. 5 and the owner of Nos. 6-10 had both agreed to carry out works in accordance with the schedule prepared by the Senior Sanitary Inspector to render same fit for human habitation.

A representation was made in December in respect of No. 1 North Street, under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and at a meeting of the Public Health Committee held on the 10th January, 1939, it was decided to hold a Special Meeting on the 16th January for the purpose of inspecting the property. Then at a meeting of the Public Health Committee held on the 7th March, a letter was read on behalf of the owner of the freehold of the property stating that he does not object to a Demolition Order being made, but asking that it may not be carried into effect for six months and this was agreed to by the Committee.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :—

(a)	Total	131
	(i) By the Local Authority	4
	(ii) By other bodies and persons	127
(b)	Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority ...	181

TOWN PLANNING.

At the Annual Meeting in 1934 the Council appointed a Town Planning Committee to continue the work begun by the Herne Bay Joint Town Planning

Committee, of preparing a Town Planning Scheme for the enlarged Urban District of Herne Bay, and the first meeting of the newly constituted Committee was held on the 20th April, 1934.

Steady progress has been made with the work, and on the 18th September, 1935, the Committee submitted a report to the Council containing recommendations for the preparation of the Draft Scheme. This report was approved by the Council and instructions were given for the Draft Scheme to be prepared on the lines of the Committee's report.

Some of the most important provisions of the Draft Scheme are those prohibiting the development of unsuitable land, which will prevent dwellings being erected in positions where the public health services are difficult to provide, while the Draft Scheme (which had to be adopted by the 1st October, 1936) also provides for zoning the district in areas which are most suitable for, *e.g.*, Special Residential, General Business, General Industrial and Agricultural purposes, while these areas themselves are zoned for density. Another important provision is the setting aside of suitable land for specific purposes, *e.g.*, Cemeteries, Allotments and Public Open Spaces, whilst provision is also made for new roads and improvements to existing roads.

It was reported in February, 1937, that the preparation of the Draft Scheme had reached the position that the map was as complete as possible and was deposited at the Council Offices for inspection by members of the Council.

At the meeting of the Council held on the 28th July, the Draft Scheme in connection with the preparation of the Planning Scheme was adopted.

At a meeting of the Town Planning Committee held on the 16th June, 1938, it was formally reported that in accordance with the resolutions passed by the Council a copy of the Scheme and of the Scheme Map has now been submitted to the Minister of Health for confirmation, together with all relevant documents, and that the Scheme and Scheme Map is now on deposit for inspection by interested persons, who may make objection to the Minister up to 9th July, 1938.

Tents, Vans and Sheds,

During the year 27 gipsy caravans were removed and this entailed numerous visits by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant.

Gipsies continue to pay frequent visits to vacant land in the vicinity of the Isolation Hospital, where they are a considerable annoyance to residents in the vicinity and cause much trouble.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply: Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

The number of persons and premises registered by the Urban District Council at the close of the year was as follows:—

Dairy Farms	...	...	...	...	19
Producers of milk	...	...	...	...	19

Retail purveyors of milk	20
Retailer of milk from outside the District ...	1
Retailers of milk in sealed receptacles only ...	31

One producer ceased milk production and one retail purveyor of milk discontinued business during the year.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

During the year the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his staff made 161 inspections of cowsheds and dairies, and nine notices were served upon cowkeepers to secure improvement of cowsheds and dairies.

Warning letters were sent to four cowkeepers for failure to remove dung from the flanks, udders and teats of the cows before milking.

One dairy farmer, with most unsuitable cowsheds and dairy, was required to cease milk production as he was unwilling to construct adequate buildings.

The occupiers of two other dairy farms, which were unsuitable for milk production, intimated that they would cease to produce milk after a specified date, rather than construct suitable buildings.

Plans were received for the construction of modern cowsheds and dairy with steam sterilizing facilities at two dairy farms where the conditions were most unsuitable for milk production. The producers at these two farms will apply for licences to produce " Accredited " milk upon completion of the new buildings.

The cowsheds and dairy at a dairy farm at which " Accredited " milk was produced, was disconnected from a cesspool and connected to the sewer.

Mechanical milkers were installed at a farm at which " Tuberculin Tested " milk is produced.

Milk for Sale in Sealed Receptacles Only.

There were 31 retailers of milk registered to sell milk in sealed receptacles only, during the year. In most instances these registered retailers are the occupiers of general stores whose premises are unsuitable for registration as dairies.

It is a condition of registration of such retailers that they shall sell milk in sealed receptacles as received from the supplier, and shall retain the milk in a refrigerator, ice-box or insulated chamber until sold.

Examination of Samples.

The following samples of graded milk were sent to the County Laboratory by the Senior Sanitary Inspector for bacteriological examination :—

Grade of Milk.	No. of Samples taken.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested	14	10	4
Accredited	21	18	3
Pasteurized	3	3	—
Ordinary	26	18	8

The three samples of " Pastuerized " milk were taken at a Children's Convalescent Home : this milk was produced outside the district.

Forty-five samples (including two of the above-mentioned " Pastuerized " milk) were sent to the County Laboratory by the Senior Sanitary Inspector for examination for tubercule, and all, with the exception of one, proved negative ; with regard to the one positive sample, the tubercular cow was subsequently traced and slaughtered.

One sample of " Pasteurized " milk was examined by the phosphataze test and proved satisfactory.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector states : " There is no legal bacteriological standard for undesignated milk, but the presence of coliform bacillus in 1/100th of a millilitre is considered unsatisfactory."

Appropriate action followed in the case of the unsatisfactory reports.

School Milk.

Fifteen samples of School Milk were sent to the County Laboratory by the School Inquiry Officer for bacteriological examination and 11 of these proved satisfactory ; the four unsatisfactory samples were all from one dealer. Five samples were also examined for tubercle and all proved negative.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Licences issued in pursuance of this Order and which were in force during 1938, were as follows :—

Licences to bottle " Tuberculin Tested " milk ...	1
Licences to bottle " Accredited " milk ...	1
Dealer's Licence to use the designation " Tuberculin Tested "	8
Dealer's licence to use the designation " Pasteurized "	1

Graded milk is being produced in the district as follows :—

" Accredited " milk producers	4
" Tuberculin Tested " milk producers	2

Dairymen are constantly urged to install steam sterilization plants, and there are now twelve dairies within the Urban District which are equipped with steam sterilizing facilities.

Control Tests on Milk Churns.

Retailers of milk are required to thoroughly cleanse all churns by application of boiling water or steam before returning to the producer.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector reports as follows :—

" Eight churns were tested by examination of washings of previously sterilized water, and two of these produced counts of more than half a million bacteria per millilitre and also revealed the presence of bacillus coli. The value of this test is the proof it affords of the failure of the retail purveyors to properly treat the churns before returning to the producer for refilling."

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are four licenced slaughterhouses within the Urban District and 620 Notices of slaughter were received from six butchers who slaughter at these places.

The 1,754 animals slaughtered were all inspected after slaughter by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, and many of them were also seen before slaughter. This number shows an increase over the previous year, which is accounted for by the addition of a new slaughterhouse.

The following are the particulars of meat found to be diseased and which was surrendered and destroyed by burning at the Gas Works, by the courtesy of the Manager of the Herne Bay Gas Company :—

Tuberculosis :	Carcase and offal of two pigs ...	170 lbs.
	56 Pigs' heads	560 lbs.
	35 Pigs' mesenteries	35 lb.s
Other diseases :	Carcase of a lamb (extensive bruising)	69 lbs.
	Carcase and organs of 1 pig (acute pleurisy, peritonitis and pericarditis)	84 lbs.
	Portion of hind quarter of beef (bone taint)	130 lbs.
	Rump of beef (fatty degeneration)...	20 lbs.
	1 leg of pork (decomposition) ...	48 lbs.
	20 Pigs' livers (cirrhosis)	80 lbs.
	3 Pigs' plucks (pleurisy, pneumonia and pericarditis)	21 lbs.
	3 Sheep livers (distomatosis) ...	12 lbs.
	15 Rabbits (decomposition) ...	40 lbs.
	16 Lobsters (decomposition) ...	16 lbs.
	32 jars of mincemeat (mouldy) ...	32 lbs.
		1,317 lbs.

The following table gives particulars of the carcases inspected and condemned :—

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ...	6	—	57	550	1139
Number inspected ...	6	—	57	550	1139
All diseases except Tuberculosis : Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	3	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	33.3	—	—	.72	2.19
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	92
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	8.16

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, three slaughtermen were licensed during the year, in addition to the twelve slaughtermen previously licensed by the Council.

One hundred and fifty inspections and re-inspections of butchers' shops were made by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and special attention paid to the conditions under which sausages are manufactured.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

One slaughterhouse at Hicks Forstal was a corrugated iron structure and was most inadequate ; it was made a condition of the re-licensing of this that it be replaced by a slaughterhouse of modern construction within six months. The new building was erected within the stipulated period and consists of a brick slaughterhouse with a separate cooling room in which to hang the carcases and organs of animals after slaughter. It is not intended for the slaughter of bovine animals. It is cement rendered internally and is well lighted and ventilated, whilst it is drained to a cesspool which is emptied upon agricultural land by the occupier.

Application was made for a licence to erect a slaughterhouse at Sweechbridge Road, Hillborough, and this was granted by the Urban District

Council. The building was erected in November : it is brick built, cement rendered internally and has main drainage. It is large enough for the slaughter of bovines as well as pigs and sheep. The provision of a cooling room was not insisted upon, as earlier in the year the owner was permitted to construct a cutting-up room adjoining his house nearby, and carcases and offal are removed to this room to cool after inspection.

Another slaughterhouse, situated in Richmond Street, was licensed subject to the provision of satisfactory artificial lighting, and to meet this requirement gas was installed.

Registration of Premises.

Premises which are used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food, intended for sale, will have to be registered with the Local Authority as from the 1st October, 1939, in pursuance of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 ; these premises will then be subject to periodical inspection and registration can be cancelled for failure to comply with conditions specified in the Act.

Bakehouses.

The 19 bakehouses in the Urban District are regularly inspected as required by the Factories Act, 1937. It was necessary in two instances to require cleansing and lime-washing. Several of the bakehouses in the District are not well arranged and have furnaces which have to be refuelled from within the bakehouse, which does not promote cleanliness. During the year one bakehouse closed down.

Fish Friers.

The trade of fish frier is scheduled as an " Offensive Trade " in the Urban District of Herne Bay and is controlled by Bye-laws. The consent of the Council is necessary to the establishment of any new business. Five persons are registered as fish friers and their premises are subject to inspection at frequent intervals.

Ice Cream.

Ice Cream is manufactured at 13 premises in the District and these are subject to frequent inspections during the summer season. In addition, ice cream obtained from large wholesale manufacturers is sold at 30 premises.

The Senior Sanitary Ispector writes as follows :—

" There is at present no legal standard controlling the composition of ice cream, with the result that its constituents vary considerably. It is often made by the use of various proprietary brands of powdered preparations. In the course of investigations as to the cause of repeated unsatisfactory samples, I considered it advisable to have the powder, from which the ice cream is manufactured, bacteriologically examined : this powder showed a bacteriological count of 3,320,000 bacteria per millilitre and also revealed the presence of coliform bacillus.

" The food and Drugs Act, 1938, which will come into operation on the 1st October, 1939, makes it compulsory for all premises used for the sale or manufacture of ice cream, to be registered with the local authority,

who may refuse to register unsuitable premises, and may cancel the registration of premises which are subsequently found to be unsuitable. Some disappointment has been felt because the Act contains no legal standard controlling the composition of ice cream, but power is given to the Minister of Health to make regulations concerning the preparation of food, and it might be hoped that a legal standard of constituents and bacteriological content of ice cream will appear as a regulation at an early date."

During the summer season 16 samples were taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination, and only 8 of these were considered to be of a satisfactory bacterial standard, and contained less than 100,000 bacteria per millilitre, and no bacillus coli in 1/100th of a millilitre.

Adulteration of Food.

The law with respect to the Adulteration of Food and the Food Regulations is administered by the County Council and not by the Urban District Council.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

All Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food done in connection with the Herne Bay Urban District is carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Supply of Serum.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for the use of the poorer inhabitants of the district in accordance with the Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910. A supply is kept at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital.

Verminous Persons.

There are no facilities for the cleansing of verminous persons in the District. Clothing, however, can be disinfected at the Disinfecting Station.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 37 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, 17 in fifteen private families, 14 in two Convalescent Homes (13 of these occurring in one Home), 3 in two Boarding Schools, 1 in a Children's Home, and 2 in a Nursery Hotel. Six of the patients were adults. Twenty-one of the patients were removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment, one patient was isolated and treated at home, thirteen were removed to one of the Fever Hospitals of the London County Council, and the two children at the Nursery Hotel were isolated and treated at the Hotel. One of the adults was a member of the domestic staff at the Isolation Hospital; the second adult was a nurse at the Convalescent Home where cases had occurred; the

third and fourth adults were visitors to the District, one being apparently unwell when she arrived and the other a " Return " case, whose son was discharged from the Bromley Isolation Hospital a fortnight before his mother was taken ill. In the case of the other two adults the source of infection could not be traced. Two " Return " cases occurred in one private family.

Diphtheria.

Eleven cases of Diphtheria were notified, 2 in two private families, 5 in one Convalescent Home and 4 in a Girls' Holiday Home. Six of the patients were removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment, along with three " Carriers " found by swabbing the contacts in the Holiday Home ; and five patients were removed to one of the Fever Hospitals of the London County Council. One of the patients was an adult, employed as a domestic at the Convalescent Home where cases had occurred.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

Two cases of this disease were notified in the Urban District, a girl of 13 years of age and a boy of 7 years. They occurred at separate Elementary Schools and there seemed to be no connection between the two patients. The Schools were visited, the children inspected and their noses and throats were sprayed. Both the patients were removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment and they recovered. There was no further spread of the disease.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified in the Urban District ; the child was treated at home and recovered with vision unimpaired.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified and removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment and was discharged recovered.

Chickenpox.

During the year 40 cases of Chickenpox were notified, 3 in two Convalescent Homes and 37 in three Children's Homes. No cases were notified in private families.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.

At the beginning of the year an outbreak of Mumps occurred at the Herne C.E. School.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	37	34	—
Diphtheria	11	11	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia...	1	1	—
Pneumonia	22	—	15
Erysipelas	9	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Chickenpox	40	—	—
Total	123	48	15

" Return " Cases.—Two cases of Scarlet Fever in one family.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS, 1938.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under one year.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	2	3	19	6	1	5	1	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	1	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia...	3	3	1	1	—	2	1	1	—	1	3	6
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	2	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox...	—	—	4	7	13	15	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total ...	4	3	5	10	16	46	10	4	7	5	5	8

Year.	Private Families.		Boarding Schools, Convalescent Homes, etc.	
	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
1938	17 in 15 families.	2 in 2 families.	14 in 2 Homes. 3 in 2 Schools. 3 in 2 Children's Homes.	5 in 1 Home. 4 in 1 Holiday Home.

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	2	2	2	—	1	—	—	—
25	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
45	8	4	—	—	3	3	—	—
55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total ...	13	10	5	1	4	7	—	—

During the year 1938 the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was nil.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate for Herne Bay Urban District for the year 1938 was .68 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Herne Bay and District Tuberculosis Care Committee.

This Committee has continued to increase its activities during the current year which consist of visiting, the provision of any possible form of help or advice necessary, the giving of extra nourishment where necessary, and the care of pre-tubercular or delicate contact children. The special forms of help on which the Committee concentrates are the provision of suitable extra nourishment to patients in need, the provision of clothes for Sanatorium treatment and also warm clothing for poor tubercular families in necessitous circumstances and the sending away at its own expense of delicate children for Convalescent Home treatment for glands, etc.

Disinfection.

The disinfection of rooms and bedding continues to occupy much of the time of the staff of the Health Department. The methods employed include fumigation of rooms with formaldehyde vapour and spraying with a germicide solution. The number of houses disinfected during the year was 119.

Infected bedding is removed to the Council's disinfecting station by means of a small motor van, and is disinfected by the "Bacterol" process of vapourization. During the year 96 batches of bedding were disinfected, including 30 batches which were disinfected for the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council and 21 batches for St. Anne's, London County Council Institution. A charge is made for disinfection of bedding on behalf of the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council and St. Anne's Home, and also in respect of bedding disinfected at the request of various persons after non-notifiable sickness, and during the year these charges amounted to a total of £91 0s. 6d., which is an increase of £16 10s. 0d. over the receipts for 1937.

Arrangements have recently been made to carry out disinfection of bedding on behalf of the Bridge Institution and the Blean Institution, on payment of an agreed amount per parcel of bedding.

In addition, on the application of the owners, six batches of infected bedding were destroyed by burning.

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	2,771 acres
Population, 1938 (Registrar-General)	13,230
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	4,191
Rateable Value (end of 1938)	£177,624
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£655

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		Broadstairs & St. Peter's U.D.	England & Wales
Live Births—	140	78	62	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.58	15.1
Legitimate	131	76	55			
Illegitimate	9	2	7			
Stillbirths—	—	—	—	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	Nil	Not Available.
Deaths—	156	78	78	Death Rate per 1,000 of the of the estimated resident population	11.79	11.6
				Adjusted Death Rate	9.78	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

		Deaths			
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis ...	Nil	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil	0.86
No. 30.	Other puerperal causes	Nil		Nil	2.11
	Total	Nil		Nil	2.97

	Broadstairs & St Peter's U.D.	England & Wales
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—		
All infants per 1,000 live births	42	53
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	38	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	111	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	32	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1938.

	Males	Females
All Causes	78	78
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2. Measles	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	1
6. Influenza	—	—
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8. Cerebrospinal Fever	—	—
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	3	4
10. Other Tuberculosis	—	—
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes, etc.	—	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	17	15
14. Diabetes	1	2
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	2
16. Heart Disease	22	22
17. Aneurysm	—	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	2	4
19. Bronchitis	—	5
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	4	2
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—
22. Peptic Ulcer	1	—
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ...	—	—
24. Appendicitis	—	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	1	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	2	3
28. Nephritis	2	5
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	—
31. Congenital Causes, etc.	2	2
32. Senility	4	2
33. Suicide	—	—
34. Other Violence	1	1
35. Other Defined Causes	11	5
36. Ill-defined Causes	1	—
37. Diarrhoea (2 years and over)	—	—
Sepecial Causes (included in No. 35 above) :		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Local Acts.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Water and Improvement Act, 1901.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Water Act, 1907.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1913.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1923.

Adoptive Acts in Force.

* The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
* The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Parts II, III and IV.
 The Private Street Works Act, 1892.
* The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Parts I II, III, IV, V, VII and X, with the exceptions of Sections 15, 16, 18, 27, 32, 34, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 78, 80, 82 and 94.
* The Public Health Act, 1925 :

Part II.	Sections	17 to 20 inclusive.
	,,	23 to 33 ,,
	,,	35.
Part III.	,,	36.
	,,	38 to 44.
Part IV.	,,	45, 49 and 50.

* (Certain Sections of these Acts were repealed by the Public Health Act, 1936)

In addition to the foregoing, in December, 1935, the Council resolved to exercise the powers contained in the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.

Orders.

An Order dated 27th October, 1930, extending (permanently) the application of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, to Chickenpox.

Bye-Laws and Regulations, Relating To :

Cleansing of Footways and Pavements and the Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.

Nuisances.

Slaughterhouses.

Offensive Trades.

Sanitary Conveniences.

Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar Structures.

Houses intended or used for occupation by the working-classes and let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family.

New Streets and Buildings.

Underground Sleeping Rooms.

Nursing Homes.

Prevention of Waste, etc., of Water.

Registration of Nursing Homes.

(Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

Return of the work of the Council during 1938.

	Number of Homes.	Number of Patients provided for :—		
		Maternity Patients.	Others.	Totals.
Homes first registered during the year ...	—	—	—	—
Homes on the register at the end of the year ...	9	6	144	150

Action During 1938.

Twenty-six inspections were made by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Fifteen of the births in the Urban District took place in three Nursing Homes.

Mortuary.

The Public Mortuary is situated in the Fire Station Yard : it consists of one room only, which is well lighted and ventilated. The lower portion of the walls is lined with white glazed tiles. It has a cement floor which is efficiently drained. There are two white porcelain tables, one fixed and the other moveable. There is also a slab and a sink and water laid on with means of providing hot water. It does not seem necessary that the Council should re-build or enlarge the mortuary at present.

Meteorological Records.

The sunshine record for the year was 1821.9 hours and the rainfall 23.98 inches.

Ministry of Health Inquiries.

A Public Inquiry was held at Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs, by J. W. Mason, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, on the 30th March, into the application of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council for consent to borrow £31,921 for works of Sea Defence at Louisa Gap and provision of Chalets.

On the 28th April a Public Inquiry was held at Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs, by H. L. Bloomfield, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, into the subject matter of a Clearance Order made by the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council under the Housing Act, 1936, and dated the 7th February, 1938. The Minister of Health confirmed the Order, without modification, on the 12th July, 1938.

A Public Inquiry was held on the 19th October, at Pierremont Hall, by A. Norman Gardiner, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, into an application of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council for consent to borrow £21,656 for works of Sea Defence from Westcliff Road to South Cliff Parade.

Health Education.

On the 14th October a meeting was held under the auspices of the Kent County Council and arranged by the British Social Hygiene Council, in the Pavilion at the Garden-on-the-Sands, Broadstairs, in the afternoon for women only, and was attended by about 100, when a lecture was given by Miss Bennett ; in the evening another meeting was held for men and women, about 70 being present ; at this meeting the lecturer was Mr. R. D. Sanders.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The supply of water is obtained from a well in the chalk 170 feet deep, situated at Rumfields on the western side of the District, and from an adit which stretches in a north-westerly direction for a distance of about a mile. The local supply is supplemented by water obtained from the Works of the Margate Corporation, situated at Wingham, some twelve miles away. In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1923, an agreement with the Corporation of the Borough of Margate was incorporated whereby it was agreed that for a period of 50 years, the Urban District Council should be able to obtain a surplus supply of water from the Corporation's Works, and that not less than 7,500,000 gallons of water per quarter should be taken and paid for at a rate which was inserted in the Agreement.

Storage is provided at Rumfields by an underground concrete tank of 300,000 gallons capacity at the base of a concrete tower ; and at a height of 100 feet there is a concrete tank of 250,000 gallons capacity and also the original tank at a lower height with a capacity of 70,000 gallons. There is also another 1,000,000 gallons underground reservoir.

In 1913 the Council installed a Haines Water Softening Plant, which reduced the hardness of the water from about 22 degrees to about 10 degrees·

Owing to the increase of the population in the District, the Council felt that either the softening plant should be enlarged or a different kind installed, and they decided to install a new system called the " Permutit " Base-Exchange process. Sanction to the loan having been obtained, a tender was accepted from the United Water Softeners, Ltd., for the sum of £3,911, and the work was put in hand in 1934 and completed at the beginning of 1935.

The process reduces the degree of hardness from 23 degrees to 9.7 degrees. The water passes through green sand, which robs it of all its hardness and impurities and reduces it to zero. Afterwards it is raised to the required degree of hardness by blending it with unsoftened water.

In the year 1938 the consumption of water was as follows :—

From Broadstairs well and adit	119,312,000 gallons
From the Margate Borough Supply	86,561,000 gallons
Total	205,873,000 gallons

and was satisfactory in both quality and quantity.

The water is controlled by chemical and bacteriological examinations: during the year a monthly chemical examination was carried out at the South Eastern Analytical Laboratory, Canterbury, with satisfactory results ; and a weekly bacteriological examination was carried out at the County Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone, which showed that the water was of the highest degree of bacterial purity.

In a letter to the Clerk dated 4th December, 1937, the Medical Officer of Health wrote to the effect that it was very necessary the Council should have a chlorinating plant available for use in case it were found at any time that purification of the water was required. In July, 1938, the Council approved a scheme submitted by the Waterworks Committee, for the provision of a chlorinating plant, it being felt that although the water is always free of any signs of pollution, it would be wise for means of chlorination to be available at all times.

At 31st March, 1939, there were 4,598 premises connected to the Council's water mains ; in addition to these there were 341 metered supplies.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A system of main drainage, which is a partially combined one, was provided some 50 years ago for a portion of the present Urban District. The whole of the sewage is discharged untreated by an outfall sewer near the North Foreland. The sewage flows by gravitation except in a small area near the Harbour, where it is raised by an Adams lift worked by compressed air, with a 3 inch Stereophagus Pump to supplement the Adams lift, which works automatically, the power being derived from an electric motor.

In the year 1928 a scheme was commenced for dealing with portions of the District hitherto not sewered and for providing a new outfall sewer, and a screening chamber situated at the North Foreland. The work in connection with the outfall sewer was completed in November, 1937, the present outfall sewer being 1,600 feet in length.

The work of sewering the Kingsgate area was finished in March, 1936; with the completion of this work the Council provided main drainage for practically the whole of the District.

During 1938 two private streets were sewered and the premises thereon connected to the sewer,

Closet Accommodation.

There are approximately 4,751 separate premises in the District containing the following types of sanitary conveniences :—

W.C.'s into drainage system	4,063
W.C.'s into cesspools	685
Pail Closets	3

Public Cleansing.

Dry refuse is collected by horse-drawn vehicles and disposed of by salvage and incineration. From the Nursing Homes and Schools it is collected three times weekly; from the Hotels and Boarding Houses daily during the summer, and twice weekly during the winter. From dwelling-houses it is collected twice weekly throughout the year.

The amount of refuse collected during the year ended 31st March, 1938, was approximately 4,457 tons, at a total cost of £2051 13s. 2½d., or 9s. 2½d. per ton. The net cost of disposal amounted to £1,374 4s. 10d., or 6s. 2d. per ton. The amount recovered from salvage was £174 0s. 0d.

There are no ashpits in the Urban District, all premises having portable dustbins. Every effort is made to see that these are kept in order, and 29 have been renewed during the year as a result of notices served upon owners or occupiers by the Sanitary Inspector.

The Urban District Council arranged with Messrs. Heenan and Froude, Engineers, Worcester, to erect a combined salvage and incineration plant for dealing with their house refuse, and the works came into use at the beginning of December, 1930. The incinerator consists of two cells or furnaces with a common combustion chamber. The forced draught system consists of a motor-driven centrifugal fan. The combustion chamber is connected with an all brick chimney 120 feet high above the ground level.

It was found that a certain amount of dust was being emitted from the chimney, and to obviate any nuisance by this the Council installed a Water Dust Trap in 1934, between the combustion chamber and the chimney shaft. This work was also carried out by Messrs. Heenan and Froude.

There are only three houses in the Urban District with pail closets; these are on the outskirts of the District and are cleansed by the occupiers, the contents being disposed of on the land. Where cesspools are in existence the occupiers make their own arrangements for having them emptied, the Council loaning their pumping plant for this purpose; the contents are disposed of on farm lands.

In April, 1938, Regulations were made by the Urban District Council with reference to the collection of trade refuse, under the provisions of the

Public Health Act, 1936. These Regulations provide, *inter alia* :—

That, as from the 1st April, 1938, the Council undertake (on application to the Surveyor) the removal of trade refuse from warehouses, special properties, bake-houses, factories, workshops, lock-up shops, and shops and houses combined, subject to prepayment of the sum of 10s. per annum for the collection of one standard bin (4 cubic feet capacity) per week in Winter (October to May inclusive) and two standard bins per week in Summer (June to September inclusive), plus an additional fourpence for each subsequent standard bin, or other container of a similar capacity, to be paid for by tickets to be obtained in advance from the Accountant to the Council.

That fish offal be collected on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays in each week in the Winter and daily in the Summer, at a charge of fourpence per standard bin, to be paid for by tickets to be obtained in advance from the Accountant.

That clean waste paper separately bagged or baled, be collected free of charge.

That refuse arising from the service of restaurants, cafes, etc., on shop premises, or from food sold and consumed on the premises be required to be placed in separate bins suitably marked and that such refuse be collected free of charge.

That in cases where the disposal of trade refuse by the Council is desired the following charges be made :—

Per Load Delivered at Tip or Refuse Destructor :—

2s. 0d. for motor lorry exceeding 4 cubic yards ;

1s. 6d. for motor lorry of 4 cubic yards ;

1s. 0d. for horse cart ;

6d. for handcart ;

to be paid for by tickets to be obtained in advance from the Accountant.

During certain months of the year the cinders separated from the refuse are sold to brickmakers. Tins are pressed and baled, and are periodically disposed of, as are bottles and other salved material.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following are the particulars supplied to the Medical Officer of Health by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to the sanitary inspection of the area :—

Summary of Visits, Inspections, etc :—

Inspections under Housing Acts	7
Re-inspections under Housing Acts	31
Inspections under Public Health Acts	255
Re-inspections under Public Health Acts	137
Visits in relation to Infectious Disease	145
Visits *re* sampling	155
Miscellaneous visits	662

Inspections of Slaughterhouses	592
,, ,, Bakehouses	12
,, ,, Fish and Chip Premises	2
,, ,, Factories and Workshops	11
,, ,, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	196
,, ,, Tents, Vans and Sheds	8
,, ,, Bathing Pools	9
Inspections and Re-inspections of Verminous Premises ...	35
Inspections *re* Rat Infestations	130
Visits *re* Shops Acts	190
General Surveys *re* Shops Acts	31
Visits *re* Overcrowding provisions	87
Inspection of Other Food Shops and Premises	156
Total Inspections	2,851

	Total.	Complied with.	Not Complied with.
Statutory Notices Served ...	—	—	—
Informal Notices served... ...	166	166	—
Letters written	643		
Interviews with Owners, etc. ...	753		
Interviews *re* Shops Acts ...	58		

Summary of Sanitary Improvements effected :—

Dampness remedied	4
Drains cleansed	9
Drains re-laid	7
New manholes built	18
New manhole covers and frames provided	18
New gullies fixed or repaired	5
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	2
Ventilating shafts or soilpipes provided	7
Drains water tested or smoke tested	4
Cesspools abolished and drains connected to sewer	7
Cesspools defective or overflowing	3
Additional water closets provided	1
New W.C. basins provided	1
Flushing cisterns provided or repaired	8
Water closets repaired	1
Wash-hand basin and fittings provided	1
Sink wastepipes repaired or renewed	2
Plastering	1
New dustbins provided	29
Yard paving repaired	3
Windows repaired	4
Accumulations removed	20
Nuisance from keeping of animals	8
,, ,, standing water abated	4
House in filthy condition	1
Heating installation provided	7
Ventilation improved	1
Smoke nuisances	3

Premises cleared of Rats	31
Premises cleared of Vermin—Bugs	17
,, ,, ,, ,, —Cockroaches	4
,, ,, ,, ,, —Fleas	4
,, ,, ,, ,, —Mosquitoes	3
,, ,, ,, ,, —Ants	2
,, ,, ,, ,, —Wasps	4
Miscellaneous Nuisances	20

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES.

1. Inspections.

Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Number of Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers . Prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	5	—	—
Factories without mechanical Power	18	—	—
*Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	54	—	—

* Electrical Station reckoned as factories.

2. Defects Found.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects. Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Prosecutions. (5)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) Unsuitable or Defective ...	2	2	—	—
Other Offences	4	4	—	—
Total	7	7	—	—

Shops and Offices.

The Sanitary Inspector reports that 221 inspections and re-inspections were made during the year and that the following improvements were effected under the Shops Act, 1934 :—

12 New Dustbins ;
4 Gas Radiators ;
3 Portable Electric Fires ;
1 Additional Water Closet ;
1 Lavatory Basin, fittings and water supply provided ; and
1 Shop, ventilation improved.

Camping Sites.

Owing to the prohibition of camping at Elmwood Farm and the refusal of the Urban District Council to grant permission in certain cases, practically no camping took place in Broadstairs during 1938.

Informal action was taken in three cases where tents had been erected without permission, and they were removed.

Twenty-seven boys from the Battersea Boys' Club were accommodated in " The Playhouse," Westcliff Road, from the 29th July to the 12th August, and a similar number from the 13th to the 26th August ; two visits were made by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, and no further action was necessary.

Smoke Abatement.

There are very few factories in the District liable to cause smoke nuisances : no such nuisances have been observed and no complaints have been received.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are 7 swimming pools used in connection with Private Schools in the District, and one public swimming pool at the Grand Hotel. The water for these pools is taken, by arrangement with the Water Engineer, from the town mains.

Arrangements have been made with the owners of the pools for frequent inspection and for taking samples of water during the summer months when the pools are in use. Samples were taken from all the pools during the year.

National Health and Fitness Campaign.

Arrangements were made for the display of posters in the Urban District with regard to the National Health and Fitness Campaign.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Fifteen houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year, viz. :—two Council Houses and thirteen Private Houses. The rooms affected

were thoroughly sprayed with liquid insecticide ("Cromessol Solution B," "Roxem" and "Certan" being used) with satisfactory results in each case.

Only minor infestations are met with, caused in most cases by the luggage or personal belongings of summer visitors.

Prospective tenants of Council houses are interviewed and their dwellings inspected before houses are allotted to them, to prevent undesirable tenants becoming occupants of Council property. Council houses are also inspected on becoming vacant, for action to be taken before re-letting if required.

Disinfestation is carried out by the disinfecting staff under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector or his Assistant.

Mosquito Control.

A circular dealing with the prevention of mosquito breeding was issued during the year to residents living in the Kingsgate area of the Urban District.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

Visits in connection with rat infestations were made to many premises during the year. Poison (Red Squill Rat Biscuits, Zelio Paste, Roxem and/or Phosphorus Paste) was supplied free to all applicants.

It is evident that more attention is being given to rat destruction as the following numbers of applicants for Paste during the past few years show :—

1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
76	82	72	121	141	157

National Rat Week was held from the 7th to 12th November and much work was done to arouse interest in rat destruction. Posters, newspaper articles, circular letters and printed matter, also window displays, were used in the Urban District for this purpose.

Gassing, trapping and poisoning are carried out periodically on all Council premises where rats are known to exist. In suitable cases gassing apparatus is used by a Council employee, for which service a nominal charge is made.

Schools.

The Elementary Schools have been visited during the year.

There is a large number of private Boarding Schools in the Urban District, about 14 Boarding Schools with accommodation for some 700 boarders, and a few Day Schools accommodating about 100 pupils. Some of the Boarding Schools also receive day pupils and accommodate approximately 100 of these scholars.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-Houses During the Year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	151
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	430

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 1

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 4

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... —

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 1

2.—Remedy of Defects During the Year Without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 151

3.—Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... —

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects are remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... —

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 4

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	—
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	—
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	—
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	—
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	—
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	—
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :—	

Under Section 5 of the Act power is given to a Local Authority to authorize the temporary use of a house by persons in excess of the permitted number, and for this purpose may grant a licence to the occupier or intending occupier of a dwelling-house in their District. This licence shall continue in force for a period not exceeding twelve months, or may be revoked by the Local Authority at their discretion. This appears to be an important provision affecting the seaside towns where many occupiers take in visitors during the season.

Particulars of Representations, Etc.

No representations were made during the year 1938.

A house (Caroline Cottage), represented in June, 1937, was demolished in May, 1938.

In July, 1938, the Minister of Health confirmed a Clearance Order submitted to him by the Urban District Council, ordering the demolition of three houses (Nos. 69, 71 and 73, Church Street, St. Peter's), which were represented as unfit for human habitation in November, 1937.

Two houses represented as unfit in May, 1936, (Nos. 11 and 13, Victoria Road), were demolished in October.

The four Elmwood Cottages, represented in a Clearance Area in October, 1935, as being unfit for human habitation, were demolished in December.

During the year houses were being constructed in Old Green Road in respect of the tenants living in the 8 caravans represented in two Clearance Areas in 1937 : the houses were not quite completed at the end of 1938.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a)	Total		48
	(i)	By the Local Authority	5

(ii)	By other bodies and persons	43
(b)	Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority ...	116

Town Planning.

On the 9th December, 1929, the Council passed a resolution to prepare a Town Planning Scheme in respect of an area approximately two-thirds of the area of the Urban District.

Then on the 22nd September, 1930, they passed a resolution to prepare a Town Planning Scheme in respect of an area at Kingsgate. The two schemes were combined, the total area dealt with being 2,138 acres.

On the 7th November, 1932, the Council passed a resolution adopting a Preliminary Statement of Proposals for Development.

On the 20th April, 1933, a local inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health into the Council's proposals.

Preliminary Statement was approved, with modifications, by the Minister of Health on the 23rd March, 1934; and the Draft Planning Scheme was adopted by the Council on the 18th March, 1935. The Scheme was made by the Council on the 30th March, 1936, and is at present in the hands of the Ministry.

The greater part of the area of the scheme is zoned so as to permit of the erection of residential buildings and private schools only, except by special consent of the Council. Provision is made for a few shopping areas. The number of dwelling-houses to be allowed per acre varies from four on the coast to twelve in the west of the district, half of the area being zoned at twelve to the acre.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply: Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

At the end of the year the number of persons registered in connection with the milk supply of the district was as follows:—

Producers (in respect of 7 premises) ...	...	6
Retail Purveyors of milk in the district	...	6
Retailers of milk from outside area ...	...	12 } 43
Retailers of milk in sealed containers only	...	25

Graded milk is produced at four of the cowsheds ("Tuberculin Tested"—1 and "Accredited"—3); and ungraded milk at the other three cowsheds, the number of cows kept being approximately 100.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

The requirements of the above Order as to care and cleanliness in production, storage and delivery of milk are generally complied with. One hundred and ninety-six visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector during 1938.

A warning was given to one distributor regarding the filling of milk bottles in the streets contrary to the provisions of the Order.

One cowshed floor was repaired during the year.

Examination of Samples.

The following samples of graded milk were submitted by the Sanitary Inspector for bacteriological examination :—

Grade of Milk.	No. of Samples Taken	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested ...	7	7	—
Accredited ...	17	14	3
Pasteurized ...	28	26	2
Ordinary* ...	21	20	1
Totals ...	73	67	6

* No standard being fixed for this class of milk, samples with a bacterial count of less than 200,000 are classed as satisfactory.

Eight samples of milk were sent to the County Laboratory by the Sanitary Inspector for examination for tubercle and all gave negative results.

School Milk.

Sixteen samples of School Milk were taken by the School Inquiry Officer and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination : eleven of these were reported to be satisfactory and five unsatisfactory. Check samples were taken by the Sanitary Inspector at the pasteurization plants concerned, and he reports that " as these were satisfactory it may be presumed that the ' age of the samples ' had some bearing on the unsatisfactory counts."

Five samples of the School Milk were examined at the County Laboratory for the presence of tubercle and all gave negative results.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

Bottler's licence to sell milk as " Tuberculin Tested "	1
Dealer's licence to sell milk as " Tuberculin Tested "	4
Dealer's licence to sell milk as " Accredited "	2
Pasteurizer's licence to sell milk as " Pasteurized "	2
Supplementary licence to sell milk as " Pasteurized "	2

Pasteurization Plants.

There are two pasteurization plants installed in the district, an Aluminium Plant and Vessel Company's " Tarbet " Positive Holder, and an Aveling and Barford " Batch " Pasteurizer. Both plants are approved and licensed by

the Local Authority, and samples taken at various points of the plant, after pasteurization and bottling, and on round, prove their efficiency.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS : PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

There are five registered Slaughter-houses in the Urban District and 592 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector to these premises during the year ; these were generally well kept and maintained in a clean condition.

The butchers have given every assistance in the detection of diseased and unsound meat and it has been unnecessary to take any legal proceedings as all diseased and unsound meat has been surrendered voluntarily.

Only good class animals are slaughtered and the meat is consequently of a high standard.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ...	74	—	114	1390	1052
Number inspected ...		Practically 100%			
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.29
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned ...	3	—	—	—	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.1	—	—	—	0.7

Diseased and Unsound Food Destroyed.

	lbs.	
3 Beasts' Heads and Tongues	86	Tuberculosis
1 Beast Liver...	21	,,
Lungs and Mesenteries	74	,,
6 Pigs' Heads and Tongues	66	,,
3 Pigs' Livers	12½	Cirrhosis
1 Hindquarter Lamb	25½	Bruising
2 Rabbits	6	Decomposition
13 Ducks	68	,,
1 Pressed Brisket	9	,,
1 Danish Collar	8	,,

Total amount destroyed : 3 cwts. 1 qr. 12lbs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Eleven persons are licensed in accordance with Section 3 of the Act, to slaughter in a slaughter-house or knacker's yard, all the licences being renewable on the 31st December, 1939.

Bakehouses.

There are eight bakehouses on the register of the Urban Authority, of these, two are underground bakehouses. Twelve visits were paid to these premises by the Sanitary Inspector during the year and seven nuisances were dealt with informally.

Fishmongers.

The collection and destruction of fish offal from these premises by the Council has continued throughout the year and has proved satisfactory. The offal is stored in galvanized iron bins with covers pending removal ; these bins are collected three times weekly and a clean bin left at the premises. The full bins are taken to the refuse destructor and emptied into a special chamber, the bins being afterwards washed before being returned. No complaints were received during the year and every effort is made to keep the premises clear of any offensive material.

No complaints have been received during the year against the disposal of offal by fish hawkers coming into the district from outside areas.

Offensive Trades.

There are two fish-frying premises in the district, which are scheduled as "offensive trades." Both premises are fitted with "Acme" frying ranges equipped with "Ozonair" Patent Deodorizing Apparatus. All the fish offal is collected from these premises by the Council and destroyed at the Council's Refuse Destructor.

Ice Cream.

The following samples of Ice Cream were taken by the Sanitary Inspector during the year and submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination :—

Sample No.	Bacterial Count per Millilitre.	Bacillus Coli in 1/100th Millilitre.	Remarks.
1	8,700	Present	Unsatisfactory
2	3,100	Absent	Satisfactory
3	22,200	Present	Unsatisfactory
4	8,300	Absent	Satisfactory
5	182,000	Present	Unsatisfactory
6	93,000	Present	Unsatisfactory
7	1,210,000	Present	Unsatisfactory
8	10,900	Absent	Satisfactory

Nos. 4 and 8 were manufactured by local firms and the remainder were manufactured by wholesale firms.

The Sanitary Inspector reports :—

" There are no official bacteriological or chemical standards laid down for ice-cream. The sole purpose of the above examinations is to encourage co-operation between manufacturers, retailers and the Local Authority.

" The following unofficial standard has been laid down by the Kent County Council's Bacteriologist :—

> ' Not more than 100,000 bacteria per millilitre and bacillus coli absent in 1/100th millilitre.'

" This standard is a reasonable one at the time of delivery to the retailer ; but as the majority of our samples are ' surprise samples,' taken at different intervals from time of delivery to the retailer, it is obvious that the suggested standard is too high for our purpose and results must be judged accordingly. Taking this into consideration, I should classify the above samples as satisfactory except No. 7.

" There are only two premises in the district at which ice-cream is manufactured, the bulk of this trade is now in the hands of large firms who, from a technical and scientific standpoint, are better equipped to produce a more satisfactory article of food. It is regrettable that there is no legal chemical or bacteriological standard for this commodity."

Adulteration of Food.

Ten samples of food were taken by the Sanitary Inspector under the provisions of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, as follows :—

No. of Samples.	Nature of Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
4	New Milk ...	4	—
1	Margarine ...	1	—
1	Butter ...	1	—
1	Tea ...	1	—
1	Jam ...	1	—
1	Cheese ...	1	—
1	Lard ...	1	—
10		10	

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

These examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Supply of Serum.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for the use of the poorer inhabitants of the district in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910. A supply is kept at the Sanitary Inspector's Office and also at the County Police Station.

Verminous Persons.

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the cleansing of the belongings of verminous persons.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 41 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in the Urban District, 27 occurred in six Convalescent Homes, 12 in ten private families and 2 in two Boarding Schools. All the patients, with the exception of the two in the Boarding Schools, who were isolated in the School Sanatoria, were removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment. One of the patients notified in a private family was a visitor to the district, who arrived in Broadstairs on the 3rd September and was ill on arrival, being notified as a case of Scarlet Fever on the 5th.

Diphtheria.

Ten cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, 7 in seven private families and 3 in two Convalescent Homes. Five of the cases in private families occurred in December, three attended the Broadstairs Girls' and Infants' Council School and two attended a School in Ramsgate, the two latter were not connected in any way with the three former cases. All contacts were swabbed in the homes of the patients and one "Carrier" was found, a boy who is brother to one of the patients attending the Ramsgate School; and as a result of swabbing in another family another "Carrier" was found, a girl who attended the Broadstairs Council School and who sat next to one of the cases. Then swabs were taken from the noses and throats of 148 children in the Girls' Department of the Broadstairs Council School, and only one gave a positive result, a girl whose brother was admitted to the Isolation Hospital suffering from Diphtheria on the 18th August and discharged on the 29th October: this girl sat next to two of the cases. The boy was also swabbed and found to be a "Carrier," and re-admitted to the Isolation Hospital with his sister. There has been no further spread of the disease. All the patients and "Carriers" were removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment. Two "Carriers" were also found in one Convalescent Home, as a result of swabbing, one of these was admitted to the Isolation Hospital for treatment and the other was treated in the Home.

Puerperal Fever.

One case of Puerperal Fever was notified in the Urban District during the year : the patient was nursed at home.

Chickenpox.

One hundred and forty-three cases of Chickenpox were notified as follows : 71 in two Boarding Schools (58 of these being in one School) ; 55 in six Convalescent Homes (34 of these being in one Home); 13 in ten private families ; 2 in two School Journey Parties visiting the District ; and 2 in one Children's Home.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.

There was a small outbreak of Measles in the District during the first quarter of the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	41	39	—
Diphtheria	10	10	1
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	11	—	6
Eyrsipelas	9	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Chickenpox	143	—	—
Total	215	49	7

" Return " Cases—Nil.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS, 1938.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever...	—	—	1	4	5	18	10	2	—	1	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerpural Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox ...	2	1	3	4	14	63	50	2	4	—	—	—
Total ...	2	2	4	8	20	91	64	5	6	1	6	6

Year.	Private Families.		Boarding Schools, Convalescent Homes, etc.	
	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
1938	12 in 10 Families	7 in 7 Families	27 in 6 Homes 2 in 2 Schools	3 in 2 Homes

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
35	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	2	—	1	1	1	—	—
Total ...	6	6	3	4	3	4	—	—

Included in the foregoing totals are three cases (Pulmonary) which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the Death Returns. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to the total tuberculosis deaths is 3 to 7.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate for the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District for the year 1938 was .52 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Broadstairs and Ramsgate Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The report for 1938 of this Committee shows that the work done consisted of giving help and advice ; where needed giving extra nourishment, milk, eggs, etc., especially where there are child contacts and patients returned home from Sanatorium ; help has been given in the homes for laundry and housework where the mother is the patient ; beds, bedding and clothing has been supplied when necessary, also coal ; children have been sent to Convalescent Homes for periods ; patients at Sanatorium are kept in touch with and supplied with pocket money ; and where necessary fares paid for patients to and from Sanatorium and Hospitals, and for relatives to visit patients.

Disinfection.

The disinfection of premises is carried out after all cases of notifiable infectious disease, or any other disease where the Medical Practitioners especially desire disinfection ; also after deaths from notifiable and non-notifiable diseases, and other causes if deemed necessary.

The two main methods adopted for the disinfection of rooms are by gaseous and liquid disinfectants. As to which is used is a matter of expediency. Formalin gas is used for the former and for liquid disinfection a formalin spray is used.

The number of rooms fumigated and sprayed during the year was as follows :—

Fumigated	137
Sprayed	50
Verminous rooms sprayed	96

The disinfection of bedding and clothing is carried out at the Council's Disinfecting Station. Infected clothing is removed in a special van before the disinfection of the premises. A Washington-Lyons disinfecting apparatus is used for this work. Leather goods, etc., which do not stand steam disinfection, are set aside and treated by the gaseous method. Books are either destroyed or treated by the gaseous method.

Two hundred and thirty-two parcels of bedding were disinfected during the year.

BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	55,868 acres
Population, 1938 (Registrar-General)	15,770
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	5,114
Rateable Value (end of 1938)	£95,325
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£372

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		Bridge-Blean R.D.	England & Wales
Live Births—	260	130	130	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	16.48	15.1
Legitimate	253	128	125			
Illegitimate	7	2	5			
Stillbirths—	12	9	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	44.11	Not available.
Deaths—	192	105	87	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	12.17	11.6
				Adjusted Death Rate.	9.73	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List :—

		Deaths	Rate per	Broadstair & St. Peter's U.D.	England & Wales
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis ...	Nil	1,000 total	Nil	0.86
No. 30.	Other puerperal causes ...	Nil	(live and	Nil	2.11
	Total	Nil	still) births	Nil	2.97

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	46	53
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	39	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	285	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	37
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1938.

	Males.	Females.
All Causes	105	87
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2. Measles	1	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Influenza	3	3
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8. Cerebrospinal Fever	—	—
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	5	—
10. Other Tuberculosis	—	1
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes, etc.	3	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	19	18
14. Diabetes	3	4
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage	4	6
16. Heart Disease	23	23
17. Aneurysm	1	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1
19. Bronchitis	4	4
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	2	1
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	—	2
22. Peptic Ulcer	1	—
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ...	—	—
24. Appendicitis	1	—
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	1	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	4	3
28. Nephritis	2	2
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	—
31. Congenital Causes, etc.	4	4
32. Senility	4	6
33. Suicide	1	1
34. Other Violence	7	4
35. Other Defined Causes	9	4
36. Ill-Defined Causes	—	—
37. Diarrhoea (2 years and over)	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above) :		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	1
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LOCAL ORDERS.

Bridge Rural (Apportionment of Expenses) Order, 1928—Scavenging.
Bridge Rural (Urban Powers) Order, 1931—Provision of Fire Plug.
Bridge-Blean (Urban Powers) Order, 1935—Provision of Fire Plug.
Bridge-Blean Rural (Urban Powers) Order, 1934—Public Seats, etc.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

*Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

*Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.
*Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 :—
Part 2. Sections 15, 16, 17, 23 and 27. } Sturry
Part 3. Sections 34, 35, 38, 43, 44, 46 and 49. } only.
Part 4. }
*Public Health Act, 1925.

*(Certain Sections of these Acts were repealed by the Public Health Act, 1936).

In addition to the foregoing, the Council exercise the powers contained in the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.

BYE-LAWS, REGULATIONS AND ORDERS, RELATING TO :—

Hop-pickers and Fruit Pickers (P.H. Act, 1875, S.314 and P.H. (Fruit Pickers Lodgings) Act, 1882).

Slaughterhouses.

New Streets and Buildings.

Bye-Laws made under the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890, Section 26, are in force in the parishes of Hackington, Sturry and Westbere.

Bye-Laws with respect to New Buildings made in June, 1935, came into operation on the 1st October, 1935.

Bye-Laws for Hop Pickers and Fruit Pickers made in October, 1936, came into operation on the 1st January, 1937.

PARISH COUNCILS.

Adisham
Barham
Bekesbourne
Bishopsbourne
Blean
Bridge
Chartham
Chislet
Fordwich
Hackington
Harbledown
Hardres (Lower)
Hardres (Upper)
Hoath
Ickham
Littlebourne
Petham
Sturry
Thanington Without
Waltham
Westbere
Wickhambreux
Womenswold

PARISH MEETINGS.

Kingston
Patrixbourne

HOP-PICKERS' ENCAMPMENTS.

Visits were paid to the encampments by the Medical Officer of Health, the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Inspector before occupation, and certain improvements were carried out.

A new block of huts, numbering 20, was erected in one of the encampments, to replace another block.

There are 11 encampments with about 576 huts.

CHARTHAM MENTAL HOSPITAL.

This Institution has accommodation for 1,501 patients, 732 males and 769 females. There is a resident staff, Medical, Nursing and Domestic, of 143, and a non-resident staff of 167, making a total of patients and staff, 1,712.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

On the 23rd March legal proceedings were taken by the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council against a man for not notifying the fact that he was going to slaughter a pig, under Clause 8 of the Meat Regulations. A fine of 10s. 0d. was imposed.

On the 12th May an appeal against the refusal of the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council to grant a licence to the owner of a caravan, to station and use same as a moveable dwelling, was heard before the County Magistrates at Wingham. The appeal was dismissed.

SURVEY OF THE RURAL DISTRICT BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

The report of the Deputy County Medical Officer on his inspection of the Rural District was considered at a meeting of the Public Health Committee on the 9th February.

On the 2nd May members of the Public Health Committee of the Kent County Council visited the District in company with members and officials of the Rural District Council; and on the 4th May a conference was held by members and officials of the two Councils at the Sessions House, Maidstone, when various matters were discussed. As a result the Rural District Council decided to appoint an additional Sanitary Inspector so that a house-to-house inspection of the District could be carried out, and much attention was devoted, during the year, to the housing of the working classes.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The following table shows the source of water supply in each Parish in the District :—

Name of Parish.	Source of Supply.
Adisham...	Margate Corporation
Barham	Mid-Kent Water Company
Bekesbourne	Margate Corporation
Bishopsbourne	,, ,,
Bridge	,, ,,
Chartham	Canterbury Gas and Water Company and Local Wells
Chislet	Canterbury Gas and Water Company and Local Wells
Fordwich	Roman Well
Hackington	Canterbury Gas and Water Company
Harbledown	,, ,, ,, ,,
Herne Bay	Herne Bay Water Works Company
Ickham and Well	Margate Corporation
Kingston	Mid-Kent Water Company
Littlebourne	Margate Corporation
Lower Hardres	Canterbury Gas and Water Company
Patrixbourne	Margate Corporation
Petham	Mid-Kent Water Company
St. Cosmus and St. Damian in the Blean ...	Canterbury Gas and Water Company
Sturry	,, ,, ,, ,,
Thanington Without ...	Canterbury Gas and Water Company and Rainwater Tanks
Upper Hardres	Mid-Kent Water Company
Waltham	,, ,, ,,
Westbere	Canterbury Gas and Water Company
Wickhambreux	Margate Corporation
Womenswold	,, ,,

PUBLIC SUPPLIES.—CHISLET.

Arrangements having been made with the Canterbury Gas and Water Company. The laying of a water main from the village of Upstreet to the village of Chislet was carried out during the summer, the County Council contributing towards the cost. This method of supply is a great advantage to the inhabitants.

STODMARSH.

In January the Public Health Committee considered the possibility of supplying the village from a private well : in March, after negotiations had taken place with the owner, a pipe was laid, under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, from the well to a tank in the centre of the village.

FORDWICH.

Numerous samples of the water obtained from a spring, which is called " the Roman Well," were taken during the year.

EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES.

Reports on monthly samples of water taken from the supply of the Mid-Kent Water Company, Barham, show that the water is quite satisfactory.

Samples were also taken from the supplies of the Canterbury Gas and Water Company and the Margate Borough Corporation, and on examination these were shown to be good waters.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two sewerage schemes in operation, one for the Parish of Harbledown and one for the village of Hersden, situated in the Parish of Westbere. In the remainder of the District sewage is disposed of by means of privies, pail closets and W.C.'s draining to cesspools. On the 26th April a conference was held at the City Council Offices, Canterbury, which was attended by representatives of the Town Council, the Rural District Council and the Canterbury Gas and Water Company, in order to discuss the sewerage of a portion of the Rural District.

HARBLEDOWN SEWERAGE SCHEME.

As mentioned in the Annual Report for 1937, a loan was sanctioned for the reconstruction of the Sewage Works at Harbledown and the connecting of the Summer Hill sewer with the Canterbury City sewer : this latter work was commenced in December, 1937, and completed on the 1st February, 1938.

STURRY AND DISTRICT.

As stated in the Annual Report for 1937, the Council decided in July, to adopt a comprehensive Scheme of sewerage for the area, at a cost of £41,800. Then at a meeting of the Rural District Council held in November, 1938, when it was stated that increased cost of materials would add about £2,783 to the £41,800 of the original estimate, it was decided that the new main drainage scheme for Sturry and district, with the exception of Hersden, should be shelved for five years in the interests of economy.

In January, 1939, the Public Health Committee reported to the Rural

District Council that Mr. F. W. S. Stanton had attended before the Committee and had discussed in detail his proposals for dealing with the Hersden section of the scheme. In view of the fact that adequate drainage facilities for the Central School in Bredland Lane were both necessary and urgent, and the Kent Education Committee were prepared to make a contribution of £400 towards the scheme, he proposed to include the School in the Hersden section. The sewer in Bushy Hill Road and part of Little Bredland Lane would serve the School and in addition several houses in the vicinity. The Engineer stated that the proposals would allow for the remaining portion of the scheme being brought in at a future date.

It was recommended that the modified scheme as outlined by Mr. Stanton be proceeded with and that Mr. Stanton be requested to prepare revised proposals for submission to the Ministry of Health, and to submit to the Finance Committee at their next meeting an estimate of the cost of the works,

In February, 1939, the Finance Committee of the Rural District Council reported that Mr. F. W. S. Stanton estimated the cost of the Hersden section of the scheme to be £16,650, made up as follows : In respect of land, £1,510 ; for works, £15,140.

It was recommended that the scheme be approved in principle ; that application be made to the Minister of Health for consent to borrow a sum of £16,650 for works and other matters in connection with the scheme ; that on receipt of the consent of the Minister of Health an application be made to the Public Works Loan Board to advance the necessary loan to the Council ; that application be made to the Kent County Council for a grant towards the cost of the scheme ; that a grant be made towards the cost of the scheme from the General District Rate of not less than that payable by the Kent County Council and that the Financial Officer be instructed to report as to the apportionment of the expenses between the contributory places of Sturry and Westbere.

Upstreet Sewage Disposal.

On the 6th May a visit was paid by the Public Health Committee to Upstreet and the plan of Mr. H. Anderson, for the disposal of the sewage of this area was carefully considered, but at a later date it was not adopted.

Sturry Central School.

At the beginning of the year arrangements were made by the Kent Education Committee for the emptying of the cesspools by a motor cesspool emptier and no complaints were received during the year.

Rivers and Streams.

No reports of river pollution were received during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

The approximate numbers of each type of sanitary convenience in the Rural District are :—

W.C.'s into drainage system	687
W.C.'s into cesspools	1566
Pail closets	2010
Privies	50

Public Cleansing.

The subject of Public Cleansing was dealt with fully in the Annual Report for 1937.

The Council undertakes the emptying of cesspools and the removal of the contents of pails, an efficient system of mechanical vehicles being employed.

The Minister of Health made Orders, dated 2nd December, 1938, in respect of scavenging services in the Parishes of Adisham, Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne, and the Council made arrangements for obtaining a loan, £1,460, for the purchase of additional scavenging vehicles.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following are the particulars supplied to the Medical Officer of Health by the Senior Sanitary Inspector with regard to the sanitary inspection of the area :—

	No. in District.	No. of Visits in 1938.	No. of faults and defects found.	No. of faults and defects remedied.
Bakehouses	20	25	5	5
Dairies	128	324	51	48
Slaughterhouses :				
Registered	8	308	12	12
Licensed	5			
Other food-preparing places which are, as such, subject to inspection	2	8	1	1
Factories	12	28		
Workshops	22	33	6	6
Workplaces (other than out-workers' Homes) ...	16	16		

Nuisances and Defects Remedied During the Year.

Keeping of Animals	3
Hop-Pickers' Camps	24
Sanitary Accommodation—Insufficient	10
,, ,, —Defective	70
Drainage—Re-constructed	79
,, —Repaired	12
Cesspools repaired	12
Offensive accumulations	3
Refuse Receptacles	15
Tents, vans and sheds	6
Smoke nuisances	29
Yard Paving	41
Dampness	57
Roofs and rain water pipes	45
Floors	64
Walls and Ceilings	102
Windows and ventilation	45
Baths, lavatory basins and sinks	49
Water Supplies	41
Miscellaneous	27
Total number of visits of all kinds paid by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year	5,962

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. Inspections.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power...	12	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	22	—	—
*__Other Premises__ under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	16	—	—
Total	50	—	—

* Electrical Stations reckoned as factories.

2. Defects Found.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) Unsuitable or defective...	2	2	—	—
Other offences (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) ...	4	4	—	—
Total	6	6	—	—

Shops Act, 1934.

No action was taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector during the year under the Shops Act, 1934.

Camping Sites.

The following are the particulars given by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to Camping Sites ;—

(1)	The number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1938	3	1 at Barham, attached to the Camping Club of Great Britain and Ireland; 1 at Hoath and 1 at Petham.
(2)	The number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	2	1 at Hoath and 1 at Petham.
(3)	The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1938	150	(approximately).

ALLEGED SMOKE NUISANCE.

On the 13th April the Senior Sanitary Inspector reported to the Public Health Committee that he had received complaints of nuisances caused by the burning of crude oil in orchards in different parts of the District by fruit growers. Appropriate action was taken.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are two swimming pools in connection with private schools in the District. Samples of water were taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector from these pools during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The following are particulars with regard to the eradication of bed bugs :—

(1)	The number of (*a*) Council houses, (*b*) other houses, (i) found to be infested, (ii) disinfested	Nil.
(2)	The methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs, and name of the fumigant and/or insecticide used	Houses sprayed with "Zaldecide" when necessary.
(3)	The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free of vermin before removal to Council houses	Nil.
(4)	Whether the work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority or by a contractor	Local Authority.
(5)	The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing	Not necessary.

SCHOOLS.

As far as is known, there are in the Rural District four Boarding Schools, with accommodation for some 250 pupils; three of the schools also have accommodation for about 200 day scholars.

There are 21 Elementary Schools (11 Church of England and 10 Council), and a Central School at Sturry.

In the spring of 1939 Chislet C.E. School was connected with the main of the Canterbury Gas and Water Company. W.C.'s were provided and a lavatory basin.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-Houses During the Year :

(1)	(*a*)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	497
	(*b*)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1598
(2)	(*a*)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932...	—
	(*b*)	Number of inspections made for that purpose ...	—
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	34
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	247

2.—Remedy of Defects During the Year Without Service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	98

3.—Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year :

(*a*)		Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
		(*a*) By owners	—
		(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(*b*)		Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... ...	9
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects are remedied after service of formal notices :—	

(*a*)	By owners	—
(*b*)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

(*c*) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	10
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	10

(*d*) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(*a*)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	12
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	12
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	60
(*b*)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	—
(*c*)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	8
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	55
(*d*)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(*e*)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

Particulars of Representations, Etc.

Chapel Cottage, Upstreet, Chislet, represented in July, 1937, was demolished in January, 1938.

Two houses (Nos. 25 and 26 High Street, Sturry) represented in September, 1936, were re-conditioned in March, 1938. Another house (Nargate Street, Littlebourne) represented in April, 1937, was also re-conditioned in March.

Nos. 6 and 7 Dalby's Cottages, Broad Oak, represented in a Clearance Area in July, 1937, were demolished in March, 1938.

Six houses (Nos. 2, 3 and 4 Tile Cottages and Nos. 3, 4 and 5 Prossers Cottages, Sturry) represented in January, 1935, were demolished in March, 1938.

An undertaking not to use for human habitation was accepted by the Public Health Committee in April, in respect of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Flint Cottages, Pett Bottom, Bridge.

In June a caravan in The Drove, Fordwich, represented as unfit for human habitation in April, 1936, was reported to be empty ; and two houses (Nos. 3 and 4 Prospect Place, Upstreet) which were represented as unfit in December, 1936, were demolished.

In April 12 representations were made in respect of Nos. 1 and 3 Church View, Ickham ; Nos. 1 and 2 Sutton Cottages, Waltham ; Nos. 5, 6 and 7 Debden Cottages, Petham ; two Cottages in Cake Street, Waltham ; Woodlands Caravan, Sturry ; Thatched Cottage, Stodmarsh and Royle's Caravan, Fordwich. In June the Public Health Committee accepted proposals in connection with eight of these dwellings, and decided to serve a Demolition Order with regard to Woodlands Caravan, Sturry.

In June representations were made in respect of Fir Tree Cottage, Adisham and Poor Start Cottage, Kingston, and the Public Health Committee recommended that Demolition Orders should be served with regard to these dwellings.

Representations were also made in June for six Cottages in one Clearance Area (Nos. 1/6, Albion Cottages, Sturry), and for Nos. 1/5 Primrose Hill, Chartham in another Clearance Area.

Representations were made under Section 11 for Nos. 1/4 Barnett Lane, Broad Oak, and Nos 1 and 2 Oaklands Cottages, Sturry.

Representations were made in July in respect of a Cottage at Church Lane, Adisham, and also in respect of the Cottage behind Manor Farm Cottages, Adisham, under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Nos. 1 and 2 Ivy Cottages, Blean, represented in September, 1935, were demolished in July, 1938.

In August it was reported to the Public Health Committee that Whitemill Cottage, Sturry, which was represented in April, 1937, had been -reconditioned.

Representations were made in September for three Thatched Cottages, in a clearance Area, at Blooden, Adisham.

It was reported to the Public Health Committee in September that the two Handcocks Cottages and Linden Cottage, Sturry, which were represented in April, 1937, had been demolished.

In October a Demolition Order was made in connection with Nos. 1 and 2 Sutton Cottages, Waltham, represented in March, 1938.

In November Demolition Orders were made in connection with Nos. 1/4 Barnett Lane, Broad Oak, which were represented as unfit in June.

Nos. 1 and 2 Wingate Hill Cottages, Harbledown, represented in November, 1935, were demolished in December, 1938.

The Thatched Cottages, Stodmarsh, represented as unfit in March, 1938, it was reported in December that the work of making the Cottages in a reasonable state of repair had been completed.

The Woodlands Caravan, Sturry, which was represented as being unfit for human habitation in March, 1938, was reported during the quarter to have ceased to exist.

Number of New Houses Erected During the Year :—

(*a*)	Total	176
	(i) By the Local Authority	28
	(ii) By other bodies and persons	148
(*b*)	Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority ...	252

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply : Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

The number of persons and premises registered by the Rural District Council at the close of the year was as follows :—

Producers of milk	89
Producer-Retailers	39
Dairymen	13
Retailer of milk in sealed receptacles only ...	1

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Eight hundred and thirty-three visits were made by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his Assistants to dairies and cowsheds during the year. At the close of the year the following improvements had been carried out :—

New Cowshed built	1
Structural improvements made	9
Minor defects made good	63

Examination of Samples.

The following samples of graded milk were sent to the County Laboratory by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his Assistants for bacteriological examination :—

Grade of Milk.	No. of Samples Taken.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested ...	8	6	2
Accredited	74	54	20
Ordinary	3	2	1

Four samples of milk were sent to the County Laboratory by the Senior Sanitary Inspector for examination for tubercle, all of these giving negative results.

School Milk.

Sixty samples of School Milk were sent to the County Laboratory by the School Inquiry Officer for bacteriological examination and 53 of these proved to be satisfactory, 7 being unsatisfactory. Twenty-two samples of this milk were also examined for tubercle and all gave negative results.

Fourteen samples of milk were taken from six farms in the District by the Veterinary Inspector in connection with a supply of mixed milk to a school outside the district which had proved to be positive, but these samples all gave negative results.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences, under this Order, were in force in the Rural District at the end of 1938 :—

Licences to produce " Accredited " Milk ...	39
Licences to produce " Tuberculin Tested " Milk ...	3
Supplementary Licence to retail " Tuberculin Tested " Milk	1
Supplementary Licence to retail " Pasteurized " Milk	2

Meat and Other Foods.

At the end of the year 29 men were licensed to slaughter animals in slaughter-houses in the district, the licences to be in force for a period of three years.

There are 13 slaughter-houses in the Rural District, of which five of the occupiers are licensed annually. The premises are inspected regularly and conditions found satisfactory.

The weight of meat condemned for various reasons during the year was 12cwt. 2qrs. 26lbs.

The following table gives particulars of the carcases inspected and condemned :—

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ...	418	—	150	2340	3536
Number inspected ...	350	—	130	1995	2865
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	2	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	1.43	—	—	.05	.03
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcases condemned	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	6	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	1.7	—	—	—	—

Bakehouses.

There are 20 bakehouses in the Rural District. These are visited from time to time, and in five instances improvements were suggested and carried out.

Adulteration of Food.

The Adulteration of Food Regulations are administered by the County Council in the Rural District.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination.

These examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Supply of Serum.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for the use of the poorer inhabitants of the

district in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply is kept by the Senior Sanitary Inspector at his Office.

Verminous Persons.

There are no facilities in this district for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 25 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in the Rural District in 21 families; three of these were "Return" cases. Six of the patients were adults. Eighteen were removed to the Isolation Hospital of the Eastry Rural District Council, three to the Dover Borough Isolation Hospital, one to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital, and three were isolated and treated at home.

Diphtheria.

Four cases of Diphtheria were notified, the first two occurred in the third quarter of the year, two children in Hop-picking Encampments; they were both removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment, and there was no further spread of the disease in the Encampments. Then two cases were notified in November in one family, and with a "carrier" in the same family were removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for isolation and treatment.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

One case of this disease was notified, a boy of 16 years of age. He was removed to the Dover Borough Isolation Hospital for isolation and treatment, and after discharge continued to receive treatment as an out-patient at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified at Broad Oak, the patient was treated at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital and recovered with vision unimpaired.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.

In the first quarter of the year outbreaks of Measles occurred at Sturry C.E. School, Chislet Hersden Temporary School and Chartham School, and continued until the end of April. During the second quarter Measles also occurred at Chartham Hatch C.E. School, Sturry Central, Harbledown C.E., Westbere and Wickhambreux Schools; and outbreaks of Chickenpox at Sturry C.E. and Bridge and Patrixbourne Schools. During the third quarter a few cases of Chickenpox occurred at Wickhambreux School; and in the last quarter a few cases of Chickenpox among the children attending the Chislet C.E. School: the attendance at this School was much reduced at this time owing to the children suffering from influenza colds.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	25	22	—
Diphtheria	4	4	—
Enteric Fever (Including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	8	3
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—
Malaria	1	1	—
Total	45	37	3

" Return " Cases—3 Scarlet Fever.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES UNDER AGE GROUP.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	1	3	10	3	2	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria ...	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (Including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	1	3
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total ...	1	1	3	1	3	12	3	4	3	7	3	4

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

On the 1st March a conference between representatives of the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council and the Eastry Rural District Council was held at Sandwich with regard to the administration of the Isolation Hospital belonging to the latter Council. The measures taken in the re-organization of the Hospital were explained and it was stated that cases of Scarlet Fever only were being admitted to the Hospital.

Arrangements were then made by the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council for cases of Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever to be admitted from twelve Parishes in the south of their District to the Isolation Hospital of the Borough of Dover, and for cases of these two diseases notified in thirteen Parishes in the north of their District to be admitted to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital.

On the 1st November a conference was held at the Council Offices, Eastry, between representatives of the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council and the Eastry Rural District Council, to consider the question of financial adjustment in connection with the treatment of cases admitted to the Hospital from the Bridge-Blean Rural District, and to which a satisfactory solution was come.

On the 9th November a letter was read at the meeting of the Public Health Committee from the Eastry Rural District Council to the effect that the Council had decided to close their Isolation Hospital.

On the 25th November a conference was held at Dover between representatives of the Borough Council and of the two Rural District Councils, with regard to the admission of cases of Infectious Diseases to the Borough Isolation Hospital.

At this time proposals were made by the County Council, that the Canterbury City Isolation Hospital should be enlarged so as to serve the City of Canterbury and the two Urban Districts of Herne Bay and Whitstable and the Rural District of Bridge-Blean. A conference was held at Maidstone to consider the matter on the 28th November.

In view of the difficult position in which they were placed, the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council, at the end of the year, came to an agreement with the Canterbury City Council to admit cases of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Typhoid Fever from the twelve southern Parishes of their District, and arranged for cases of Scarlet Fever notified in the thirteen northern Parishes to be admitted to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital, as well as cases of Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever.

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	8	2	2	2	5	—	—	1

Included in the foregoing total are two cases (Pulmonary) which came to to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the Death Returns. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 2 to 6.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate for the Bridge-Blean Rural District for the year 1938 was .38 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Disinfection.

Arrangements were made in 1936 with the Herne Bay Urban District Council in order that articles of bedding, etc., may be disinfected in their disinfector at a cost of 15s. per batch, in view of the fact that the Rural District Council does not possess a steam disinfector.

No. of batches of clothing disinfected during the year ...	30
No. of houses, etc., disinfected	44

GENERAL.

The Report for the year 1938 is one which is described by the Minister of Health as an "Ordinary Report." It will be noted as regards the vital statistics of the United District that the birth rate was 12.62 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, as compared with 15.1 for England and Wales; and that the death rate, 13.15 per 1,000, was higher than the birth rate. The Infant Mortality rate was 40 per 1,000 registered live births, as compared with 53 for England and Wales.

With regard to the statistics for the three districts: in Herne Bay the birth rate was lower than the death rate, being 10.53, as compared with 15.24; and this was also the case in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District, where the birth rate was 10.58 as compared with a death rate of 11.79. In the Bridge-Blean Rural District the birth rate was 16.48 and the death rate 12.17.

The infant mortality rates for the three Districts were satisfactory.

Adjusted Death Rate.

As is well known, the proportion of persons of advanced age is higher in seaside residential towns than in working-class districts, which tends to make the death rate higher in those districts.

It will be noted that the death rate for the year 1938 has been adjusted in order that the death rate of each of the three Districts may be compared with a standard. An adjusting factor is supplied by the Registrar-General which represents the ratio of the resulting death rate for the National 1931 Census population to the similarly obtained hypothetical death rate for the said area. The adjusted death rates for the three Districts are:—

Herne Bay Urban District	11.27
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District ...	11.79
Bridge-Blean Rural District	9.73

The Birth Rates and the Adjusted Death Rates for the past three years were as follows:—

Year.	District.	Adjusted Death Rate.	Birth Rate.
1936	Herne Bay U.D.	11.18	9.17
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	10.87	9.21
	Bridge-Blean R.D.	10.70	16.12
1937	Herne Bay U.D.	11.35	9.60
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	11.94	8.91
	Bridge-Blean R.D.	9.19	16.38
1938	Herne Bay U.D.	11.27	10.53
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	11.79	10.58
	Bridge-Blean R.D.	9.73	16.48

Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of infectious Diseases notified in the United District was 383. Herne Bay Urban District was credited with 37 cases of Scarlet Fever ; Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District with 41 ; and Bridge-Blean Rural District with 25.

It will be noted that the cases of Infectious Disease notified are classified in this Report according to whether they occurred in private families or in boarding schools, convalescent homes or other institutions.

Ministry of Health Circulars.

Circular 1677 was issued by the Minister of Health on the 22nd April, 1938, enclosing a copy of the Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1938, which came into force on the 1st July, 1938. These Regulations have been made by the Minister of Health under Section 143 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and are designed to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases into this country through the medium of air-borne traffic, and resemble in their general scope the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933, which were made to secure a similar object in regard to water-borne traffic.

Circular 1697 was issued by the Minister of Health on the 23rd April, 1938, enclosing copy of memorandum explaining the provisions of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Steps have been taken by the three Councils to deal with the licensing of Camps under this Act.

Under Section 343 of this Act Local Authorities are given enlarged powers and duties in respect of offices, which are included under the definition of " workplace." The new definition embraces all places of clerical employment and removes the doubt which previously existed as to the extent which local authorities had control over the conditions in offices.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938.

This is an important Act, particularly with regard to Rural District Councils. From the beginning of the year 1939 contributions from the Exchequer and rates for different purposes of the Housing Acts, 1930 and 1935, will be replaced by uniform contributions, no matter whether the new house is necessary for slum clearance or the abatement of overcrowding. The amounts of the Exchequer contribution payable for the agricultural population will be £10 a year for 40 years. This amount may be increased to £12 a year in exceptional circumstances. Rate contributions will be paid by local authorities on the basis of half the Exchequer contributions, with the exception that the local authorities' contribution in respect of houses provided by them for the agricultural population will be on the basis of £1 a year for 40 years, and the contribution from the County Council will be £1 a year for 40 years for agricultural housing.

Air Raid Precautions.

Staff

A considerable amount of the time of the Medical Officer of Health has

been occupied in dealing with this subject, as he is responsible for the Casualty Services, which consist of First Aid Posts and Points, Ambulance Services and First Aid Parties.

As mentioned in the Annual Report for 1937, the Bridge-Blean Rural District and the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Councils appointed Air Raid Precautions Officers in that year ; and the Herne Bay Urban District Council appointed an Air Raid Precautions Officer in July, 1938 ; he resigned and his successor was appointed in October.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector of the Herne Bay Urban District Council has acted as First Aid Commandant since the Crisis Week in September, 1938, for the organization and administration of the Casualty Services, under the general direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

Training

In the Herne Bay Urban District a large amount of recruiting and training of personnel has been carried out, with the assistance of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society, First Aid lectures having been given by the local Doctors and Nurses, and Anti-Gas lectures by local Instructors.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District training has been carried out, mainly in connection with the British Red Cross Society. The local Doctors have given courses of First Aid lectures and the Air Raid Precautions Officer has given lectures on the subject of Anti-Gas.

In the Bridge-Blean Rural District courses of instruction in First Aid have been given in the Parishes, also courses of Anti-Gas instruction, and a large number of persons have attended and obtained the necessary certificate issued by the St. John Ambulance Association.

First Aid Posts and Points

As regards the First Aid Post in the Herne Bay Urban District, the Cottage Hospital was taken over temporarily for the purpose in September, but at the end of the year it ceased to be available owing to the County Council having decided to demolish it and erect a Clinic on the site. Arrangements were then made at the beginning of 1939, so that the Parochial Church Institute might be available for the purpose of a First Aid Post. Originally it was intended that there should be three First Aid Posts for Herne Bay, but the Minister of Health decided that one would be sufficient ; Herne C.E. School has been recognized as an unofficial First Aid Point ; two other Points have also been recognized unofficially, one at Beltinge and the other at the West Cliff.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District the original number of three First Aid Posts was reduced by the Minister of Health to one, this is the Gymnasium at Pierremont Hall. It is intended that this building shall be enlarged to make it more suitable for the purpose.

In the Bridge-Blean Rural District, although it was proposed at first to establish First Aid Posts, the Minister of Health would only sanction First Aid Points, nine in number : application has been made, and is being pressed, for this number to be increased.

Ambulance Services

In the Herne Bay Urban District a number of motor vehicles have been earmarked as temporary ambulances, and the Council have also had under consideration the purchase of trailer ambulances. Two additional ambulances are available belonging to the Herne Bay Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District motor vehicles have been earmarked as temporary ambulances and the ambulances belonging to the British Red Cross Society will be available also in time of emergency.

In the Bridge-Blean Rural District motor vehicles have been earmarked for the purpose of temporary ambulances.

In all the three Districts women have been enrolled and trained as ambulance drivers and attendants.

First Aid Parties

A number of men have been enrolled to form First Aid Parties in all the Districts and motor vans have been earmarked for transporting the First Aid Parties.

Mobile Units

The Casualty Services are to be increased in time of war by the use of Mobile Units : these are motor vehicles in each of which travel a Doctor and a trained nurse, accompanied by six nursing auxiliaries. These units are based on hospitals and are intended to proceed to the site attacked, in order that casualties may be treated on the spot. A Mobile Unit to serve the Herne Bay Urban District and part of the Bridge-Blean Rural District is based on the Herne Bay Memorial Hospital ; one to serve the Bridge-Blean Rural District is based on the Kent and Canterbury Hospital ; one to serve part of the Bridge-Blean Rural District, in conjunction with Whitstable Urban District, is based on the Whitstable Cottage Hospital ; and Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District is to be served by two Units based on Hospitals at Ramsgate and one based on the Margate and District Hospital.

HERNE BAY RIPARIAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Circular 1745 of the Ministry of Health dated 31st October, 1938, was received.

The only ships which entered the port during the year were the passenger steamers belonging to the Eagle and Queen Line Pleasure Steamers, which called at the Pier during the Summer and landed and embarked passengers proceeding to and from Chatham, Southend and Margate. The steamers referred to are pleasure boats. The number of passengers landed was 27,961. (This total represents the number of tolls paid at 1d. per passenger).

Shellfish.

Mussel beds exist on the foreshore chiefly in the vicinity of the Pier and

at Hampton. Formerly there were mussel beds at Bishopstone and Reculver, but these have now ceased to exist. The Sanitary Inspector states as follows :—

> " I believe that mussels are picked by persons for their own use, but I do not think that they are marketed."

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